MGW
MOM...GUESS WHAT!
NEWSPAPER
Serving communities since 1978 | Issue #175 | August 1, 1991

In-depth and gay positive: An exclusive interview with Broadway's David Henry Hwang

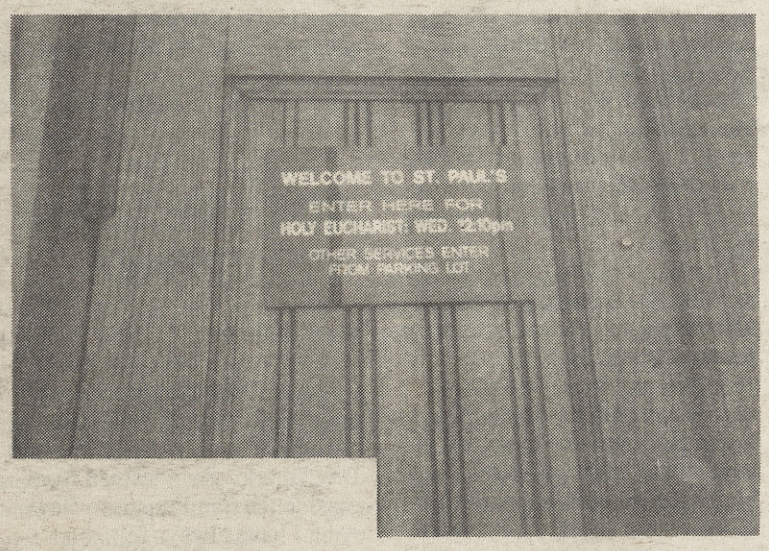
page 14

50 cents

Maverick Bishop banishes gays

by Michael Gorman
MGW ASSOCIATE EDITOR

On July 2nd, The Right Reverend John-David Schofield, Bishop of the San Joaquin diocese of the Episcopal Church held a meeting at his office in Fresno with Father Woody Peabody, Pastor of Saint Matthews Episcopal Church in San Andreas and the spiritual advisor to "Integrity of the Sierras," a lesbian and gay Episcopal organization based at Peabody's church. Bishop Schofield called the meeting to inform Father Peabody that Integrity would no longer be allowed to use any church facilities in the entire diocese, which stretches from Stockton to the L.A. County line. In addition, Integrity is forbidden to announce their meetings in any church publication. Father Peabody was also forbidden to meet with Integrity again.



Sacramento's St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 15th and J, supports the National Church's pro-gay stance.

Photos by Nathan Shreve

Schofield, who was unavailable for comment due to a recent heart attack, reportedly stated, "Integrity will not meet in my diocese."

Archdeacon Donald Seeks, who also attended the meeting, stated to an MGW reporter who contacted him by phone on July 22 that Integrity has been barred from church facilities "because the organization is dedicated to the practise of sex outside of marriage."

Asked if Integrity's bylaws or constitution makes such a statement of dedication, Seeks said simply, "Read their publications."

Unlike heterosexual couples, gay and lesbian couples are not allowed by California law to marry. Avoiding sex outside of marriage effectively condemns all gays and lesbians to life-long celibacy. Questioned about these facts, Seeks replied, "Unfortunately, that's the

See Bishop on page 4

New bill mandates peace officer training

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

SACRAMENTO — A bill, introduced by Senate Pro Tem David Roberti, requiring peace officers to be trained to sensitivity issues when dealing with the public has passed in the Senate and on Tuesday, July 16, passed 6-0 in Assembly Public Safety Committee chaired by John Burton (D-San Francisco).

The bill, SB 1075 primarily addresses the use of excessive force by peace officers. Under the measure a peace officer may not use more force than is reasonable to make an arrest, prevent escape or overcome resistance. It also requires that each law enforcement agency in the state adopt a written policy prohibiting the use of excessive force and submit a copy of that policy to the State Department of Justice by Jan. 1, 1993.

Roberti's bill also will be amended to include the Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) to require training in sensitivity when dealing with the public as to racial, gender, sexual orientation and cultural differences. The Roberti amendment expands Senator Dan Boatwright's (D-Concord) successful SB 2680, which passed in 1990, and which required POST to develop and disseminate guidelines and training for peace officers on racial and cultural differences. Sources in Roberti's office indicate that POST officials did not interpret the term "cultural differences" to include sexual orientation, therefore Roberti supplied the specific language to enhance Boatwright's intent. Boatwright has signed on as co-author to Roberti's bill.

With passage of the bill, Penal Code Section 13519.4 is amended to read:

"(b) The course of basic training for law enforcement officers shall, no later than August 1, 1992, include adequate instruction on racial and cultural diversity in order to foster mutual respect and cooperation between law enforcement and members of all racial and cultural groups. In developing the training, the commission shall consult with appropriate groups and individuals having an interest and expertise in the field of cultural awareness and diversity. For the purposes of this subsection, cultural diversity is defined to include but not be limited to gender, and sexual orientation issues. The sum of $50,000 is appropriated from the Peace Officer Training Fund to the Commission for the purpose of developing this training."

"Virtually all of California's estimated 70,000 police officers,

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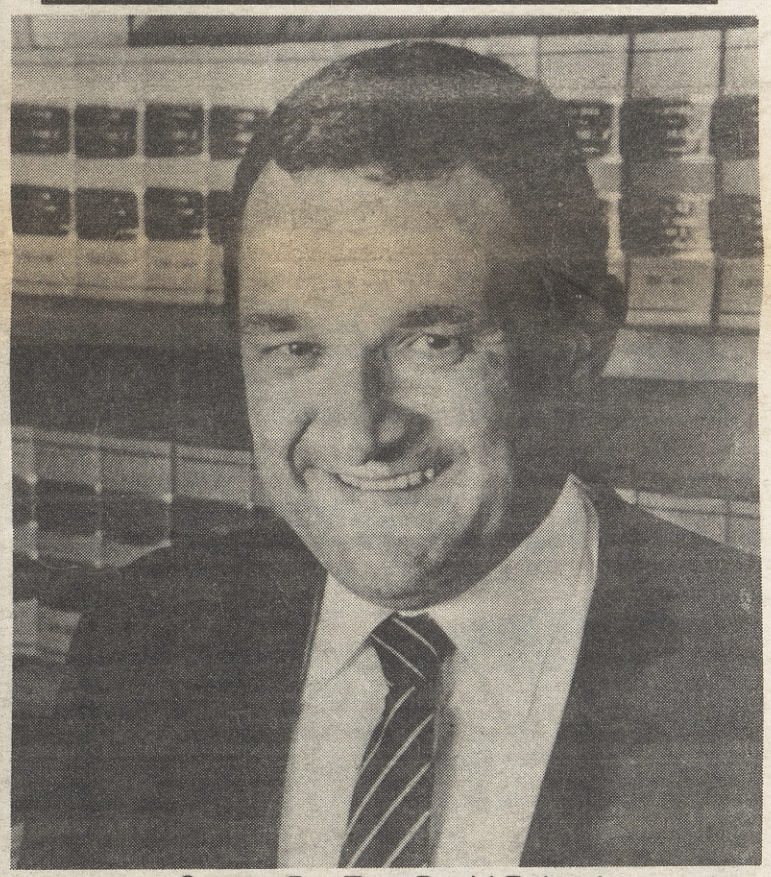

Senate Pro Tem David Roberti

Lavender Heights store robbed

On July 19, at 10:40 am, a man walked into "Moment of Touch" on J Street, pulled his t-shirt collar up over half his face, grabbed a patron and said, "Give me your money, or she's gonna go to heaven," according to "Moment ofTouch"owner Sheri Jordan. She spoke of fear for the patron's life when the woman began to struggle. She remembers the man saying, "Don't be macho, or you're gonna get hurt."

After taking the money from the cash drawer, the intruder ordered both women to lie down on the floor with their faces down. "He went through Julie's pockets, then stood over me before taking my purse. He threatened Julie again when he was going through her pockets," said Jordan.

Photo by Nathan Shreve
The "Moment of Touch" was one of the businesses recently robbed in "Lavender Heights."

Soon after the intruder left, the patron, Julie Spotts, walked outside and saw the man heading south on 23rd Street. "A young guy in a waiter's uniform followed him several blocks to see where he was going. Then he came back and called the police," said Spotts. "I wish I knew who he was so we could thank him. He was a tall, young, blonde guy. I hope he comes back."

The two women described the robber as 40-something, black, heavy-set, and about six feet tall with short hair and brown eyes.

Within minutes of the incident at "Moment of Touch," a man fitting the same description robbed another J Street store, Bossanova Baby, a block and a half west. According to clerk Heather Sullivan, the man came in, closed the door behind him and pulled his t-shirt collar over his face. "He seemed to have a weapon in front of his shorts. He didn't say anything. "The women at Moment of Touch also mentioned a bulge which could have

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staff directory

MGW NEWSPAPER

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Sacramento since 1978 Issue 3:13 January 15, 1991

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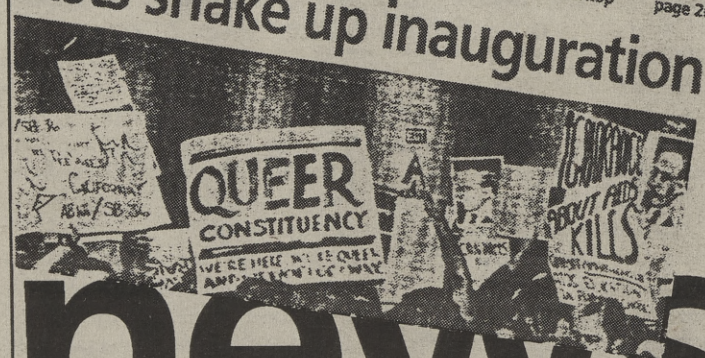
ivists shake up inauguration



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write

Issue ignored

Editor:

While R. Scott Hadley's advertisement for himself, and his announcement of his City Council campaign (which ran on the July 1 editorial page) was certainly entertaining, in a pompous self-serving kind of way, it ignored the issue of internalized homophobia -- the problem to which he was allegedly responding.

In his letter, addressing the complaints of Suzanne Jones and W. Thomas Weaver, he makes a number of assumptions that they are not voters, nor politically involved, and are, in essence merely loud, non-activist whiners. He suggests that unless they've served in the military or have run for office, they have no right to express valid opinions or to hope for change.

The fact that the U.S. military actively discourages gay and lesbian participation and fosters a sense of blind obedience that prohibits any sense of self-expression is not considered in his argument. And not everyone is suited for a life in politics. Non-participation in these two activities does not preclude, however, individuals from voting or supporting candidates who WILL foster change. I do not believe Mr. Hadley's candidacy will do anything more than make him feel even more self-important than he already seems to be.

And, having been actively involved myself in community activities for the past nine years, I notice that Mr. Hadley's name and presence are conspicuously absent from any membership rolls or community events. To paraphrase an old cliche, Scott: those who lurk in glass closets shouldn't throw stones.

Stacy Selmants

Make a difference

Dear Editor:

Slow down Mr. Hadley! The gay community is not responsible for the centuries old tradition of homophobia spanning the globe. Let's not be so eager to blame the victims. You're running for office you say. Fine. Great. I'm glad. The more gays and lesbians we have in office, the better. Just keep in mind not everyone can run for office. So don't be so quick to look down your nose at everyone else who is doing what they can to fight homophobia. Things like writing letters to officials and newspapers. Making phone calls and getting other people to make phone calls in support of AB 101. Going to rallies, and yes, talking about homophobia whenever you can. All of this matters and is just as important to the process of change as running for office is.

Melba Duncan

ACT-UP: Speak for yourself

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my anger at the events that occurred during the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. As a lesbian from outside the San Francisco Bay Area I have always felt good about being able to go to the city and share in the cultural activities, and diverse aspects of our community.

When the disturbance created by ACT-UP began, over the presence of Mayor Agnos and Chief Casey, I had a front row seat to see what should be a time for positive gay images turn into a time of negative ones. To say the least I was very upset to have a good time disrupted by a group of individuals who don't even appear to have all the facts straight on the issues they are demonstrating about.

According to different media sources Mayor Agnos agrees with the idea of a needle exchange program. However, as he stated in his interview, the day of the parade, his hands are tied by state policy, and he is not the state legislature or the governor.

On the issue of Police Chief Casey, I was pleased and excited to hear that he would participate in the parade for the first time (and I hope not the last), I was even more excited to find out that he had agreed to allow our lesbian and gay, sisters and brothers on the police force to march in the parade, in uniform, to show their pride. I do not know all the facts concerning the incident ACT-UP is all upset over, but I do know that they are not known for their non-violent protests, and more than once they have injured police officers in their demonstrations.

I would like to ask the members of ACT-UP and their supporters a couple of questions. How many of you are registered to vote? If you are, how many of you have exercised this privilege? How many of you have heard of Mahatma Gandhi or Martin Luther King Jr.? These two men helped to change entire countries through non-violent protest without infringing on the rights of others.

We are the most diverse of all sub-cultures in our society. We fill the spectrum with our diversity both ethnically and economically. Within a group so varied we should be able to make the changes necessary for our survival. Violence, aggression and oppression are the conditions we are fighting against, they should not be the tactics we use in our fight. The issues ACT-UP confronts need to be addressed, however their methods are inappropriate. I ask that they not include me in their actions, when they say they speak for the entire community they are wrong ... for they do not speak for me.

Jackie S. Hill

Thank you

Dear Editor:

During the week of July 14-19 my girlfriend and I visited and toured the city of Sacramento. Not having a gay and lesbian directory we called upon your newspaper for help.

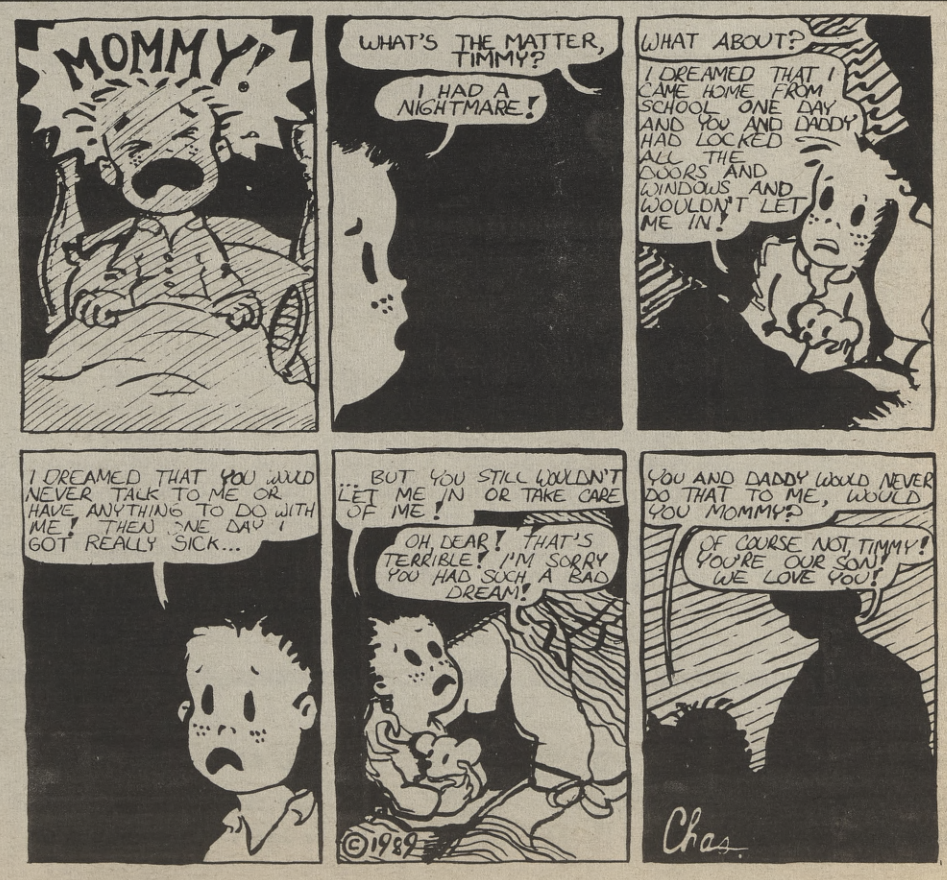
We were greeted warmly and everyone was eager to show us to the best and *safest* clubs. "Our Place" came highly recommended which we went to, and had a *terrific* time.

Thanks again for all your help and for making our trip more enjoyable. We will definitely return!

Sheila and Tina

by Charles Haver

BitterSweet


MOMMY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, TIMMY?
I HAD A NIGHTMARE!
WHAT ABOUT?
I DREAMED THAT I CAME HOME FROM SCHOOL ONE DAY AND YOU AND DADDY HAD LOCKED ALL THE DOORS AND WINDOWS AND WOULDN'T LET ME IN!
I DREAMED THAT YOU WOULD NEVER TALK TO ME OR HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME! THEN ONE DAY I GOT REALLY SICK...
...BUT YOU STILL WOULDN'T LET ME IN OR TAKE CARE OF ME!
OH, DEAR! THAT'S TERRIBLE! I'M SORRY YOU HAD SUCH A BAD DREAM!
©1989
YOU AND DADDY WOULD NEVER DO THAT TO ME, WOULD YOU MOMMY?
OF COURSE NOT, TIMMY! YOU'RE OUR SON! WE LOVE YOU!
Chas.

▼ news

Religious right takes GOP over

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA — In a front page article this week, Sacramento's august *Sacramento Bee* has finally taken notice of the religious right's call to take over or make over the state's Republican Party.

Abortion rights and gay rights have mobilized conservative Christians like no other issues, galvanizing a takeover of more than half of the state's 58 county Republican Central Committees.

Slate mailers to churches in San Diego last November listed pro-family candidates stating, "the candidates on this slate espouse strong, traditional family values and oppose the senseless killing of innocent, unborn children for reasons of sex selection, birth control and convenience. Please bring this list to the polls with you on November 6 and cast your ballot for a pro-life, pro-family future." And they did. About 60 of the 90 on the list won local San Diego elections with the help of a massive Christian phone bank effort.

Marjorie Van Nuis of San Diego created the Mainstream Voter Project in order to inform voters about candidates, their backgrounds and positions. The success of the anti-abortionists have galvanized her into action. According to Van Nuis, "They made no public appearances, they didn't issue statements - they didn't show up at candidate forums and they won. They ran a stealth campaign. Their whole reason for running was their anti-abortion positions. What abortion has to do with an irrigation district is beyond me."

It was not beyond Pat Robertson when, in 1988 he said, "We are going to place Pat Robertson people on city councils, school boards and legislatures all over this country."

Long-time Republican activist Barbara Chiodo said she began noticing Christian right volunteers showing up as early as 1985 in preparation for TV evangelist Robertson's run for the presidency.

"I think its a very dangerous movement," she said, "the people who are saying 'Don't worry, it's a fringe group' don't realize. She is dismayed by the name-calling with politicians who support abortion rights being called "baby killer." She is frightened by the hatred of homosexuals. "Never in politics was I asked what religion I was. It was sort of like if you're not a born-again, you're anti-Christ," she said.

The election of Jim Dignan as Republican State Party Chair is significant in that he, too, is against abortion and sees gays and lesbians as the antithesis to family values.

In the U.S. Senate race homophobic Congressmember William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton) is running against moderate John Seymour on a platform to "affirm the Judeo-Christian ethic as the foundation of our society."

Closer to Sacramento in the 5th Assembly District race ultra-conservative Republican Barbara Alby was sending out "hit pieces" on her opponent war hero amputee B.T. Collins which list his tolerance of abortion and gay rights and say he is the representative of evil.

In Sacramento, Rev. Jerry Sloan, longtime gay activist said, "For a long time we've been trying to wake people up to what's been happening with the fundamentalists and for a long time everyone was pooh-pooh-ing the idea that they could be dangerous. It isn't just in California but throughout the nation. People should be reading Sara Diamond's book "Spiritual Warfare," and begin to realize we really are in a war for our lives. Lou Sheldon has been making a living off of fomenting hatred for gays and lesbians in California since the days of the Briggs Amendment in 1978 and he's still doing it. Only now he's got a constitutional initiative and a whole lot of zealots to help him with the hate-mongering. If they have their way "The Handmaids Tale" will become a reality. Women and gays are their targets and they will attempt to legislate us all into submission."

"We've got to lose our complacency. Now is the time," Sloan said, "to organize on a statewide, grassroots level and form coalitions with other groups and individuals who are under attack by these people. We have to stand up, from San Diego to the Oregon border and in all the little towns in between and fight them on a pro-active instead of a reactive level. We have to sound the warning to our brothers and sisters in the rest of the

See Right on page 18

'Family' bill of rights critical but not dead

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA — On Tuesday, July 9 the Assembly Judiciary Committee heard Assembly Constitutional Amendment 28, authored by now-Senator Tim Leslie (R-Roseville). The bill would enact a constitutional amendment called the Family Bill of Rights which provides, among other things that "preserving the integrity of one's family is an inalienable right; defines marriage as a legal relationship available only to member of the opposite sex and defines family as a man and a woman related by marriage, and parents and their children, natural and adopted." Tuesday's hearing was the second for the bill which was defeated in a 3 yes 2 no committee vote but is still eligible for one more hearing because it didn't receive enough 'yes' votes to get it out of committee or enough 'no' votes to defeat it. Leslie was accompanied by David Llewellyn of the Western Center for Law and Religious Freedom who was obviously well-versed on the intent of the bill. "Currently there is no textural basis of family rights in the State Constitution," he said. "This bill would protect California families." Leslie himself seemed tentative and often vague when he was questioned about specifics in the bill or indeed the need for it. Leslie agreed that a nuclear family consisting of a wage-earner husband, homemaker wife and children constitutes approximately 15 percent of all households nationwide and about 13 percent of all California households but persisted that the bill is necessary in order to "elevate the family to a privileged status." Committee Chair, Phil Eisenberg (D-Sacramento) was impatient when he raised legal questions about possible future judicial interpretations of the bill, which Leslie was unable to answer. Members of the California Teachers' Association testified in opposition to the bill. As did Margarita Contreras of the Family Diversity Committee who said, "This amendment will have a negative impact on the civil

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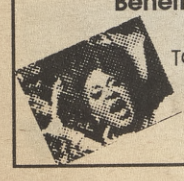

"OUTRAGEOUS!"
- Joel Siegel, Good Morning America

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One of the best films I've seen this year!"
-Joel Siegel, GOOD MORNING AMERICA

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-Richard Corliss, TIME Magazine

"EXTRAORDINARY!
A film of wit, insight and enormous compassion."
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Beautiful, lively and intelligent!
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-Lawrence Frascella, US MAGAZINE

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news

Trial date set in assault case

By Keith Clark
OF MGW STAFF

SAN JOSE — The trial date for Josh Huff, the young man accused of the felony hate-motivated assault of an openly gay neighbor, William Kiley, that Kiley videotaped, has been set for Monday, Aug. 5.

Huff, who is being identified for the first time by name, was 17 years old when the June 11 assault was videotaped by a camera Kiley had set up in the living room of his home across the street, turned 18 on Sunday, July 7. But because the alleged crime took place while he was 17 years old, he is being prosecuted as a juvenile.

He has been charged with two counts of felony assault and one count of committing a hate-motivated crime in connection with the incident. During the assault, Huff can clearly be heard calling Kiley a "faggot" and a "queer" as he punched and kicked the man.

The case has drawn national attention because of the dramatic videotaped evidence.

The jurisdictional hearing, which in juvenile court is the equivalent of a trial, will determine whether to sustain the charges against the youth. If the charges are sustained by the judge, Huff would be declared a ward of the court and could then be placed on probation or handed over to juvenile authorities.

Kiley suffered a broken nose, neck injuries and blackened eyes and bruises over his body during the assault.

Huff was order held by authorities by Juvenile Court Judge Thomas Edward at a hearing last month in part because Huff has had charges in three earlier assault cases sustained against him. The morning of assault itself, Huff had appeared in Juvenile Court on an unrelated weapons charge which is also pending.

Kiley has also filed a $20 million lawsuit against the family under the state's Unruh Act.

Huff's attorney, John McCardle has said the assault was "not a gay-bashing case" at all but a result of a long-standing feud between the family and Kiley.

Juvenile Court officials said the Aug. 5 criminal hearing will probably be moved to the larger San Jose Hall of Justice due to the public and media interest in the case and could last several days.▼

Transamerica sued over employee bonus trip

by Keith Clark
OF MGW STAFF

OAKLAND — A branch manager with Transamerica Financial Services (TFS) has filed a lawsuit against his employer, claiming the giant banking institution discriminated against him when it refused to let him take his male partner on a trip he had won as part of an employee incentive program.

Lawrence James, the TFS branch manager at the firm's Pleasanton offices and 22-year employee of the company, filed the suit last week claiming the firm violated the state's Fair Employment and Housing Act, after James won an employee incentive paid vacation offered by the company. According to the suit, TFS offered the vacation to London for employees making over a specific dollar amount in new bank loans. TFS is a subsidiary of the giant Transamerica Corp., headquartered in San Francisco.

The suit says James was notified by TFS in July of last year that we was eligible for the bonus trip, but that he had to refuse it because he was told by the firm that his male lover was not eligible to go with him. The suit says the bonus vacation was offered to winning employee's their "spouse," but notes that TFS has in the past permitted other workers to take an unmarried partner of the opposite sex on such junkets.

Richard Olsen, a corporation spokesperson for Transamerica Corp., denied unmarried partners had ever been allowed to accompany employees on such bonus trips in the past and said the trips were actually business travel, not vacations. Olsen emphasized that employees who win such company incentives are "never allowed" to take anyone other than their spouse.

The suit charges that, because the parent company is located in San Francisco, the firm's contest also violated San Francisco's sexual orientation anti-discrimination ordinance. And finally, James' lawsuit claims the contest "was in direct violation of internal policies on discrimination based on marital status and sexual orientation."

Transamerica's Olsen said the firm in fact has non-discrimination policies the guarantee workers equal access to company benefits and programs irrespective of marital status or sexual orientation. Transamerica employs more than 17,000 workers in the Bay Area and listed sales last year in excess of $6.8 billion from a broad range of insurance and financial services.

Amy Oppenheimer, the Oakland attorney representing James in the case, said neither she nor her client would talk about the lawsuit.

No specific dollar amount is being asked for in the suit which claims James suffered the actual lost benefit of the trip itself, humiliation, embarrassment and physical and emotional stress as a result of the incident.

No date has yet been set for the case to be heard.▼

Bishop

from page 1

reality."

In 1976, the Episcopal General Convention, which sets policy for the church, adopted a resolution concerning lesbians and gays:

"Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, that:

It is the sense of this general convention that homosexual persons are children of God who have a full and equal claim with all other persons upon the love, acceptance and pastoral concern and care of the church."

Seeks indicated that he and Bishop Schofield "feel that completely," but only as it concerns individuals. Integrity, in their view, is not covered by the resolution because it is an organization and not an individual.

Integrity Inc. was founded in 1974 and now has more than 50 chapters in the United States, Canada and Australia. The organization is open to all (straight and gay) who support gay and lesbian rights. Members include severral Bishops and many supportive clergy and lay people. According to Brian Jones, president of Integrity of the Sierras, "Integrity's goal is to be the church in the lesbian and gay community and to be the lesbian and gay community in the church. To do this, Integrity chapters sponsor worship, educational programs, fellowship, service to the community and dialogue with the church."

The Right Reverend John L. Thompson, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, which includes Sacramento, explained that the Episcopal Bishops are under a constitutional system. "The general conventions address issues, and the Bishops generally carry those out. Generally Bishops don't act on their own, though some do occassionally."

Asked how the Northern California diocese handles Integrity, Bishop Thompson said, "We have some chapters of Integrtity. There's been no prohibition. I have no problem with that."

Bishop Jerry Lamb, who will succeed Bishop Thompson when he retires soon, also affirmed the national church's stand on gays and lesbians, making a point as well to voice support for AB 101, the state Senate bill sponsored by Senate Pro-Tem David Roberti, which will extend civil protections to gays and lesbians. He indicated, however, that if a mission church under his direct pastoral care (such as Father Peabody's church) wanted a chapter of Integrity, he would have to consider the political implications, since, "Integrity is a political as well as social group." Established parishes have more autonomy from the Bishop, on the other hand, and would make their own decision.

Father Woody Peabody stated about his Bishop's edict, "I am disappointed that I can no longer meet with Integrity, because I think it is an important ministry. I hope to do so again when it is allowed." Because Father Peabody is the vicar of a mission church and not the rector of an established parish, the Bishop makes all final pastoral decisions. Yet no established parishes in the San Joaquin diocese, according to Peabody, are willing to risk allowing Integrity to establish another chapter. Asked about any action to change the situatuion, Peabody replied, "Part of my call involves obedience to the Bishop. It has been made clear that disobedience is a matter of importance."

Father David Meyers of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Sacramento told MGW that Bishop Schofield is not representative of the Episcopal Church. "Bishop Schofield felt himself persecuted in the Diocese of California, which includes San Francisco, for being anti-gay. He was not welcome as a parish priest there."

Of the church's prohibition against same-sex marriage and therefore against gay sex, Father Meyers said, We can go out and bless a tank, but we can't bless the relationship of two people who love each other and are of the same sex. That's crazy."

The Reverend Freda Smith of River City Metropolitan Community Chruch in Sacramento, who had just returned from Phoenix where both MCC and the Episcopal Church held national conventions, said of the Integrity controversy as well as the Episcopal struggle with gay and lesbian ordination, "The Episcopal Church is going to recognize its gay and lesbian children -- completely. I know that. I just don't know when. Integrity has geen called into being by God to raise the issues. In that they are exceedingly successful. With the spirit that has been shown by Integrity, a bishop might deny them a place to meet in the church, but he cannot deny them a place in God's dominion.

"To the memebers of Itegrity, I'd say, hold on. Encourage one another. It is impossible to be defeated without our giving consent to that defeat. We are never defeated until we give up. We are going to overcome."▼

Integrity update!

At the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in phoenix last month, the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops soundly defeated a proposed canon which would have required all Episcopal clergy to abstain from sex outside Holy Matrimony, thus effectively barring gay and lesbian clergy. Instead, a gay-friendly compromise was passed. Over 30 Deputies at the convention openly declared their gay sexuality, which minimized the homophobic remarks on the floor of the House of Deputies. In the House of Bishops, where no Bishop has yet come out, such remarks were common, according to Integrity. Reverend Elder Troy Perry, moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Chuches, was introduced to the convention, the first time he had been introduced at the convention of a mainline denomination. Both houses overwhelmingly passed a proposal that clergy and laity be educated about gay and lesbian concerns.

MGW congratulates Integrity on its successes at the National Convention.▼

Lesbian professor settles lawsuit against UCB

by Keith Clark
OF MGW STAFF

BERKELEY, Calif. — Merle Woo, the lesbian activist of Korean and Chinese background who sued the University of California at Berkeley in 1982 after being dismissed as a lecturing instructor, has resolved her long-running battle with the university for $75,000 settlement.

Woo filed suit against the university after she was dismissed from a lectureship position in the Asian Studies Department at the university nine years ago, contending she was not rehired for the position because of her politics, her ethnic ancestry, and her sexual orientation.

In 1984 the university agreed to rehire her on a two-year contract in the Graduate School of Education. But at the end of that contract, the UC again refused to rehire her and she again filed suit in 1986.

In announcing the second settlement agreement, Woo said she had decided to accept the $75,000 rather than a second reinstatement partly because "I'd probably have UC grievances, litigation and court battle until I retired."

Woo, who ran for governor last year on the Radical-Feminist ticket, also said she has been undergone surgery and chemotherapy recently in fighting breast cancer and was uncertain if her health would allow her to continue the prolonged legal battle with the university administration.

Woo now teaches in the Women's Studies Department at San Francisco State University.▼

The culture corner

This space is dedicated to the preservation and celebration of our gay and lesbian history and culture.

THE PINK TRIANGLE

In Nazi Germany, known homosexuals were forced to wear an inverted pink triangle as identification. Many were hauled off to the concentration camps. Because homophobia kept this historic chapter closed for go long gay activists in the 1970's adopted the pink triangle as a symbol to identify themselves and remind the world of past hatred.

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news

Sensitive police?

by Michael Gorman
MGW ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Police training does not stop at the academy. According to Lee Dohm of the Sacramento Police Department, training occurs in three primary stages: academy, middle management and veteran police. Senator Roberti's new bill, SB1075, includes an ammendment which will require sensitivity training (including sensitivity to sexual minorities) at all levels.

In 1990, Senator Daniel Boatright (D-Concord) successfully sponsored a bill requiring sensitivity training based on race, religion and cultural differences. The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training later decided that cultural differences did not include sexual orientation, and therefore sensitivity training directed toward gays and lesbians was not mandated by the bill.

According to Dohm, the Sacramento City Police do not include sexual orientation sensitivity training in anything but their academy level training, and that for only the last nine years. Although that academy training signals progress, it also means that any officers graduated from the academy prior to the past nine years have received no official training on dealing with sexual minorities.

The Sacramento County Sheriffs Department, on the other hand, includes sexual orientation sensitivity training at all levels. If Senator Roberti's bill passes, all departments in the state will be required to follow the County's lead.▼

Roberti

from page 1

sheriffs' deputies and other peace officers undergo POST training for certification," Roberti said. "But the current POST training curriculum is not sufficient. My legislation will require that the POST training includes understanding of our multicultural society. Without this training, a POST certificate will not be issued," he said.

Roberti is Chair of the Senate Rules Committee which conducts confirmation hearings on all appointees to the POST Commission. He said he will be conducting special overview hearings in the near future on POST and its operations.

Senate Bill 1075 will next be heard in Assembly Way and Means which is
Chaired by John Vasconcellos (D-San Jose) after the Legislature reconvenes on August 19. It then goes to the Assembly floor and then back to the Senate. After passage in both Houses it will go to the Governor's desk for signature. ▼

Robbery

from page 1

been a weapon. Sullivan also was ordered to the floor and searched. Belying her fear and anger, Sullivan quipped, "He stole my stereo with my dirty dancing tape in it! I've been cleaning up this black finger-printing dust forever!"

According to police, a description of the suspect was broadcast out soon after the robberies, and a bicycle officer at the K-Street mall noticed a car matching the vehicle that one of the witnesses saw following the suspect slowly as he left J Street. It was slowing to park on 10th near J. The officer saw the suspect exit the car and walk into a store on the mall. She radioed for assistance, detained the female driver of the car, Brenda Young, and awaited the return of the male suspect. The suspect, Arthur Taylor, arrived after the backup unit and was arrested.

The women at both stores described the police as courteous and helpful.▼

announcements

California

KVIE

In July, KVIE Channel 6 aired the controversial (and wonderful) documentary about gay African Americans *Tongues Untied*. In September the station plans to air *Longtime Companion* and *Andre's Mother*. KVIE has lost subscribers over these airings, but is committed to continuing to air gay-positive shows. Call program director Susan Prince (929-5843) to thank her. Consider becoming a member of Channel 6 to further strengthen support for diversity in programming.

State fair

The 1991 California State Fair runs Aug. 16-Sept. 2. General admission is $6 for adults, $5 for seniors 62 and older (weekdays only), $4 for children ages 5-12 and free for children 4 and younger. Fair hours are 10am-10pm. Fairgrounds parking is $3.

Sacramento

Lambda Players present

The Lambda Players of Sacramento will be presenting Robert Chesley's powerful and controversial *Jerker*. *Jerker* will play Saturdays and Sundays, Aug. 3-Sept. 1, 1931 L St., Sacramento, doors open 7:45, curtain 8:15; Tickets $8 in advance, $10 at the door; 442-7752.

AIDS grant completed

The Lambda Community Center has successfully completed its 1990-91 AIDS Education and Prevention Grant from the County of Sacramento.

As a result of this success, the county has awarded the Lambda Community Center $114,500 -- for fiscal year 1991-92. This new grant represents a 10 percent increase over the previous year.

Programs continuing under the new grant include: Youth Group, being Alive Living Room, the "Keeping It Up!" workshop, publication of the *Positive Social Support Newsdigest (PSSN)*, and the AIDS Outreach Program. In addition, the new grant provides for an outreach program directly targeting youth (specifically those engaging in same-sex activity) as perhaps the fastest growing at-risk group.

Smoking program

The Lambda Community Center announced a 125 percent increase in funding for the tobacco program. This program will continue smoking cessation seminars and self-help programs as well as add new programs.

A smoking cessation class will begin on Aug. 7 at 7pm and will continue for Wednesday evenings. The new programs will include a youth theatrical production and working with the bar owners to create one "smoke-free" night a week. The tobacco program has a new health educator, Sue Doerfer, and will continue to utilize the services of volunteers from the community.

Women's group

A safe, supportive and loving environment for survivors of sexual abuse is being formed. Participants will explore and identify feelings, let go of shame, turn anger into action, identify effects of sexual abuse, and develop healthier ways of coping.

Signups are Tuesday, Aug. 6 and Thursday, Aug. 8 and every other week therafter, at Kelly & Associates, 411 Oak St., Roseville, 6:30-8:30pm; to register 783-0579. Facilitator is Melinda Facelli, M.A., MFCC IMF15850, intern to Andrea Kelly MFCC MG16944.

New mixed chorus

Auditions for "Chambers" a new mixed choral ensemble open to all interested singers regardless of sexual orientation. This is a musical non-political organization devoted to singing a wide variety of fine choral literature for the enrichment of Sacramento and surrounding communities. An accompanist and a signer are also needed. For more information call Jim Parr at 448-4573.

Theatre workshops for kids

Sacramento Children's Museum is conducting theatre workshops for children Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays through the month of August. Topics include playwriting, acting, prop making, and stage movement. Registration suggested, $7 for museum members, $9 for non-members; 447-8017.

Open auditions

Garbeau's Dinner Theatre will hold open auditions for the first production of their 10th anniversary season, *The Whales of August*, by David Berry, on Monday, Aug. 11 at 6:30pm at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre, 12401 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. For more information, 985-6758.

SLCC

Sacramento Lesbians Creating Change (SLCC) held its first official membership event on July 13 -- an introductory potluck barbecue at the home of Laurie McBride and Donna Yutzy.

Co-chairs Mary Smith and Jean Hunter, called for all lesbians to become involved and make their voices heard with the support of SLCC.

SLCC now has a membership/mailing list count of over 200 lesbians. If you would like to know more about this organization or would be interested in working with one of the many committees, contact SLCC at 448-3130, or write to Box 160532, 95816.

Donations accepted

Unwanted baby clothes, furniture, toys, etc. are needed by teen parents. Items that are particularly needed are: cribs, car seats, basinettes and diapers. The "little ones" can also use toys in good condition. Bring tax deductible donations to: YWCA, 1122 17th St., or contact Karen or Mel, 442-4741.

Announcements may be submitted to MGW, 1725 L St., Sac. 95814.▼

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newsclips

by Denise Okamoto
MGW NEWSCLIP EDITOR

California

Fire damages gay resort

Russian River's most popular resort, The Woods, was seriously damaged by a fire. The Hexagon House which contained a dance floor, a restaurant and several offices were totally destroyed in the blaze. The fire apparently started in the kitchen but its actual cause is still unknown.
--San Francisco Sentinel

A letter to President Bush

The Federation of Gay Games has sent a letter to President George Bush regarding the current U.S. Immigration policies which ban HIV-positive persons from being allowed into the United States. In it the Federation of Gay Games urges the President to remove the HIV virus from the list of exclusionary diseases, thus allowing infected participants in the upcoming 1994 Gay Games to attend the event. The letter also states that "it unnecessarily restricts and further stigmatizes and dehumanizes an already vulnerable part of our world's population".

Newspaper to continue anti-homophobia ads

Anti-homophobia ads in the *Tacoma Morning News Tribune* will continue to run despite a threatened boycott from some of its advertisers and subscribers. Due to the negative response to the ads, these public service announcements will continue to appear because it is proof that they are seriously needed. The most recent ad is the hard hitting "Dan Is Gay, So They Crippled Him For Life", graphically illustrating how homophobia leads to violence against gays.

Openly gay candidate

Bob Burke, an openly -gay candidate is seeking office in the 46th Assembly District in Los Angeles. Though he is competing against over 10 other candidates, he is appealing to the large gay and lesbian population that resides in the district. The 46th Assembly District includes Silver Lake, parts of Echo Park, Los Felix, Atwater Village, East Hollywood, MacArthur Park, Pico-Union, Wilshire Corridor and Windsor Square.

Around the Nation

Gay and lesbian lobby

Gay and lesbian organizations lobbied Amnesty International USA'S General Meeting in Washington. They were seeking change in Amnesty's policy of excluding protection for gay and lesbian prisoners of conscious. Inclusion of gays and lesbians in Amnesty's mandate will be brought before a vote at its international conference in Japan in September.

ACT-UP wins settlement for fired employee

Bill Hornburg, from Payless Shoesource, was fired when he was presumed to have an HIV status. Although Hornburg was beginning legal proceedings against Payless he wrote to ACT-UP for support. ACT-UP responded by planning a demonstration at a busy parent company of Payless, May Department Stores, if a settlement was not made by May 30. Since none was made, ACT-UP planned a demonstration for June 15. Three days before their demonstration both parties came to an agreement that Hornburg was satisfied with. The quick settlement was attributed to ACT-UP's involvement in the case.

Proposal to reverse ban on gays and lesbians in the military

A document released by the Department of the Army proposed to change their regulations on banning homosexuals from the military. The document, produced by the Justice Department in the case of a gay man discharged from the military, clearly refutes most the governments argument for banning gays and lesbians in the Army. Current research clearly argues that gays and lesbians are not security risks to the government, and that this kind of discrimination is a violation of American civil rights.

OUT fund disburses $100,000

OUT: A fund for Lesbian and Gay Liberation has awarded grants to a variety of organizations striving for lesbian and gay liberation, totalling $100,000. Grants were given to 23 projects that were selected from over 100 projects that applied to the Fund.

Around the Globe

Mexico welcomes world confab

The International Lesbian and Gay Association's 13th World Conference was held in Acapulco, Mexico, attracting 130 Delegates from all over the world. Organizers were surprised that so many delegates attended due to the quick rearrangement of the location of the conference. The conference was originally to be held in Guadalajara, but was cancelled after the mayor , the county president, and the state governor threatened to arrest the participants and withhold police protection. Since the conference was not dubbed "official" because more than half of the delegates were unable to attend, all activities of organization will be put off till the 1992 conference in Paris.
--Philadelphia Gay News

It pays to advertise

media watch

by Ben Carlson
OF GLAAD/SFBA

AT&T

AT&T has sponsored a Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week for its employees for the past three years. It is designed to educate workers about homophobia through speakers, information booths and workshops. A Christian Broadcasting Network has instructed its viewers to complain about this program and to threaten to cancel using their service if the company does not stop its Awareness Week. Support AT&T's fight against homophobia by calling them toll free at 800-323-4357.

Newsweek

Newsweek's summer "Special Edition" is titled "How Kids Grow", is the third in a series of extra issues on "The American Family". They failed to include any sections on gay and lesbian parents or children who are gay or lesbian themselves. One child psychologist, David Elkind, is quoted as saying that "parents need to be more vigilant" in protecting their children from danger, and illustrates this idea by saying that children from the ages of 9 to 12 need to develop same-sex friendships to be prepared for later heterosexual relationships. Let *Newsweek* know what you think, write to *Newsweek,* 444 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

KPIX-TV

In early May, KPIX-TV aired a segment called The Commitment Test, that lasted only a few minutes long. It was used as filler following the news. It was an interview of couples, one of which was gay, about relationships. KPIX received a barrage of anti-gay calls soon following the airing. Write to Program Director, KPIX, 855 Battery St., San Francisco, CA 94111, and tell them that if they had promoted the show you would have supported it.

Essense comes on strong

In *Essence Magazine,* the Mother's Day issue, Clara Villarosa, Senior editor, and her daughter, Linda Villarosa, wrote a beautiful piece about Linda's coming out experience. It is a poignant piece describing their relationship as mother and daughter and how it is effected when Linda comes out to her mother. Read it, enjoy it, sent it to your mother and write *Essence Magazine:* Susan Taylor, Editor-in-Chief, 1500 Broadway, NY, NY 10036.

Protest defamatory coverage, and notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of the San Francisco Bay Area (GLAAD/SFBA) of all defamations. Contact them at 347 Delores St., #312, S.F CA 94110, or call (415) 861-4588.

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HIV news

by Sonya Cox
OF MGW STAFF

FDA panel approves DDI...

The Federal advisory committee to the Food and Drug Administration last week gave their stamp of approval to DDI. If the FDA heeds the committee's advice, DDI will become the second anti-viral licensed since the 1987 approval of AZT. It will also provide an alternative treatment for the thousands of people with AIDS (PWAs) who can't tolerate AZT. Instead of the old approval process that took years, the panel used "surrogate markers," an innovative approach that will be used whenever there is a "national emergency in which a drug is desperately need." Although the recommendations of the panel are not binding, they ordinarily are given considerable weight by FDA. DDI is expected to be quickly approved, but the panel recommended that it be approved only for those who can't tolerate AZT. The FDA doesn't have to follow this recommendation, however.

Food exchange...

Anyone who would like to participate in the monthly Food Exchange Program, which provides about $40 worth of groceries for $13 per order, is invited to do so. If you eat, you qualify. A good idea for anyone wishing to stretch their food dollars. Clients of the AIDS Foundation can turn in their orders by August 7 to Shoshanna Zatz at SAF (448-2437) and arrange with her for food pickup in the Foundation's parking lot. There is also a pickup point at MCC church for people who aren't Foundation clients. Turn in your orders on the fourth of every month between 10:00 and 2:00 in the MCC social hall (no checks; money orders or food stamps only). MCC food pickup is at the same location. August orders will be delivered Saturday, Aug. 24 (about 8:30am); September orders will be delivered on the 21st. Two hours of time volunteered by either you or someone on your behalf need to accompany each food order. One of the favorite community activities of homebound participants in the program is working with the "Smiles for Seniors" program to help other homebound people in the community. Volunteers with this program, sponsored by St. Paul's Church, simply make a phone call whenever they can to a homebound senior to make sure they're OK, haven't fallen, etc.

Cloggers to do benefits...

The fantabulous Barbary Coast Cloggers of San Francisco, who will be in town performing at the State Fair August 16-18 and 24, will do a benefit performance at MCC Church on Fri., Aug. 16, with proceeds donated by the crowd going to AIDS charities. They will also dance at Faces on the evening of Sun., Aug. 18 for that wild and wooly western dance crowd. They will "pass the hat" during their performance for Sacramento People with AIDS, with proceeds directed to the AIDS Emergency Fund being created by Performing Artists for AIDS-Related Charities (PAARC), and to Hope House. You'll hear more about fundraisers for the Emergency Fund in the future, and start seeing bottles around town at cash registers as part of The Pennies Project, to collect your unwanted pennies and loose change; as soon as several thousand dollars are raised, the fund will be formally opened to Sacramentans with AIDS and disabling ARC who are trying to get by on less than $800 a month. Don't miss this rousing performance! Thank you, thank you to these men who do fundraisers each year after dancing in the heat at the Fair all weekend!!

More about Florida dentist...

A University of Georgia researcher says he thinks that the internal parts of the dentist's drill, which can be used as both a drill and a tooth polisher, can harbor blood and tooth fragments and be passed from one patient to another. His random survey showed that fewer than one percent of dentists he questioned sterilized the equipment properly (that is, for about 45 minutes) between patients. He feels this multi-purpose type of handpiece may have been responsible for the transmission of HIV between dental patients in Florida recently.

Needle exchange...

Officials in Canada, where free distribution of clean needles to drug addicts is legal, say the program is definitely limiting the spread of AIDS without increasing illegal drug use. There's been a 17 percent drop in the number of people testing positive with HIV in the past year, and no indication that the number of drug users is rising. In this country, it seems impossible to convince officials of the need for needle exchange. All that is legally allowed is the distribution of bleach to clean works after each use. Forward-thinking law officials in some California cities, however, have refused to prosecute AIDS workers who distribute clean needes.

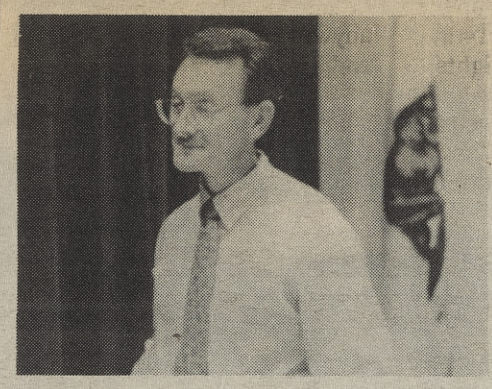
Ryan White's tomb defiled again...

For the fourth time in a year, the tombstone of Ryan White, who died 14 months ago of AIDS at the age of 18, has been vandalized. This time, the 4,000-pound stone was completely topped over, and will need major repairs. Ryan was barred from public schools during his illness and became a fluent spokesperson for people with AIDS prior to his death. Two juveniles are being charged with the recent vandalism.

Research update...

- The information Dr. Jonas Salk has submitted to the Food and Drug Administration in support of his vaccine appears to be enough to have convinced them to approve his request for national testing. Preliminary tests on 90 people with asymptomatic HIV, says Salk, have shown decreased viral activity and stabilized cell counts. University of Southern California officials are now seeking permission to try the vaccine on uninfected people. Some AIDS specialists, however, have expressed concern that Salk's tests may have overlooked critical elements, leading to overly optimistic conclusions. Ongoing tests on other vaccines, such as GP-160, appear to be quite promising. None have as yet been tested on people who are HIV-negative. Tests thus far have been on asymptomatic people with the virus.
- Peptide T is the first drug designed specifically to treat dementia, a much needed treatment since many people with AIDS eventually develop some difficulty in thinking or remembering. Thus far, only AZT seems to help with dementia. Early tests have shown no toxicity with Peptide T, and some improvements in mental function. A phase II test (using placebos) with a larger group of people will determine whether the promising early findings are accurate.
- Tests are continuing to be run to determine what it is about AZT that makes it become ineffective six to 24 months after it's begun. Avoiding or overcoming this problem with the drug would have immeasurably positive consequences. Researchers are looking at gene therapy (a treatment that's a long way off) and combining AZT with other drugs that will kill infected cells that have developed a resistance to AZT, so that surviving cells that aren't yet resistant to the drug can continue to be treated. This is now in clinical trials, and early results are encouraging.
- Chemotherapy to treat AIDS lymphoma has proven so far to be so hard on most PWAs that physicians are reluctant to attempt to treat this cancer of the lymphatic system. A University of Southern California trial of low-dose chemotherapy combined with AZT and other drugs such as DDC is thus far showing a complete remission in 50 percent of those tested, and is proving to be much more tolerable to PWAs..

Thank you to Dr. Bary Siegel for his continuing support of this column.▼



On July 16, Dr. Neil Flynn presented, to a packed audience at UCD Medical Center, the findings from June's International AIDS Conference in Florence.

Photo by Mike Cook

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Extra
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flash and fun stuff

by John Batchelor
OF MGW STAFF

In past editions I've mentioned everyone's right to a marriage cremony and let's hope eventual legislation. One local couple took just that step recently. Michael Kettmann and John Fernald tied the knot in a beautiful back yard service. Both of the men's sisters gave away their brothers in a touching ceremony and celebration. After a live rendition of the *Wind Beneath My Wings,* there was not a dry eye in the house. Family and friends attended from across the country and witnessed the exchange of rings and the signing of the dual Power of Attorney. The couple then dashed off to Hawaii to honeymoon. Best Wishes for many, many years ● The **Sacramento Men's Chorus** (SMC) has done it again. They entertain and they educate, yet ever so subtly. The tap dancers did some mighty fine hoofing. (And rookies at that!) **Brad Liszt** pulled out all the stops on his fairy costume. Rumor has it that Brad already had the costume in his closet. (In three different colors!) In any case, keep up the good work, guys ● The 14th annual **Bay Area Playwrights Festival** opens August 8. All this fresh local talent is presented at the Magic Theatre (Fort Mason Building). Of special interest is a story of love in the AIDS era, *Shall We Dance* and a coming of age play, *Cross-dressing in the Depression.* Please call (415) 441-8822 for ticket information. Come watch the birth of a play. ● There are all kinds of "hot lines" lately. **River City Democratic Club's** (RCDC) new information line is 394-3114. **Karl Greene** is the sexy voice you will hear. But be sure to call the number anyway! ● The bars are a-buzzin, and here are some of the details . . . **Faces** is gearing up for the annual **Rainbow Festival** street fair. This event benefits Hope House and promises to be the best yet. Mark August 30 to September 1 on your calendars . . . . . Bring your talent and your friends to **Our Place** every other Wednesday for "open mike" night . . . . . Kudos to the **Town House** for a most successful Art Attack II. All proceeds from this event go directly to Hope House . . . . . The **Mercantile Saloon** is putting their patio to good use lately. **The Lavender Angels** held a recent event on the patio. And the **Sacramento Leather Association** (SLA) is holding a benefit entitled "A Night of Fantasies" on August 11 . . . . . And speaking of patios, the **Buffalo Club** uses their patio every day. Check it out . . . **Joseph's Town and Country** (JTC) held a recent fundraiser for the Lambda Community Center. Kudos and let's all work to save our center . . . The **Wreck Room** is always an inviting place and is in the process of planning some August benefits. ● Just down the street from the **Wreck Room** is a great little restaurant and piano bar, **Shakers.** The restaurant was recently profiled in *MGW* and later in the *Sacramento Bee.* Mr. Flash had to check it out. The place is delightful, and the waiter Andy provides service with a ready smile. The three course dinners will hit the spot. At present the paintings of **Cynthia Lemmon** are featured as well as hundreds of salt and pepper shakers! ● Happy nine year anniversary to one of the busiest couples in town, **Ed Condon** and **Norman Lorenz.** ● Happy August birthday to "retired" *latest Issue* columnist Dan Palomino. ● Healthy Living continues with *Understanding AIDS\HIV: Fears, Facts and Feelings* with **Joe Chase** on August 5. This presentation is held at the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. ● Remember *Jerker* is presented by the **Lambda Players** at the center, weekends through August. ● Don't let summer slip away. Get out and make the most of every day . . . . . *John*▼

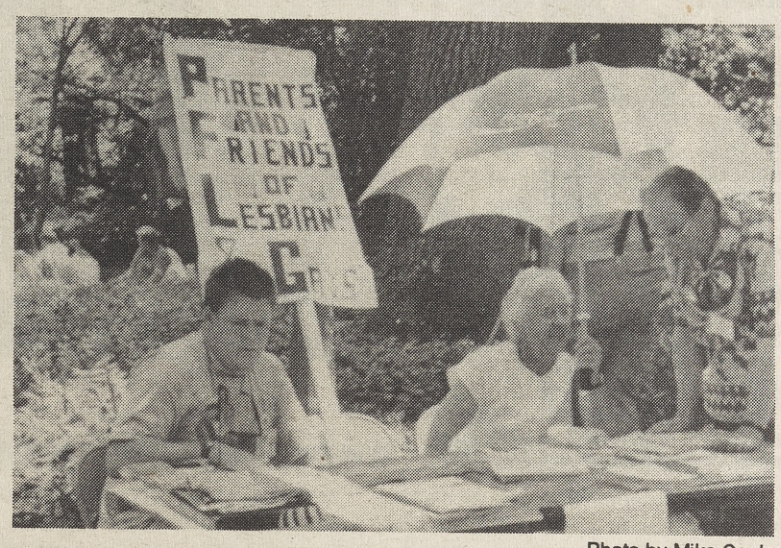

Photo by Mike Cook

Chico P-FLAG, where emblem on the Chico city welcome sign is a first for the nation, were heroes at the festival. For all whose families are less than accepting, P-FLAG was a welcome and comforting presence.

Historic first pride festival in Chico

On Sunday, July 21, Chico held its first Gay and Lesbian Pride Festival at the Alumni Grove on the campus of California State University, Chico. Booths from organizations in Chico and Sacramento lined the lush green grove under a canopy of trees, solidifying the sister city relationship that is developing between the two valley towns.

The festival was presented by the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance; Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; The Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire, Chico Province; Stonewall Alliance of Chico and Women's Cultural Productions.

Photo by Mike Cook

The Surge performed for hundreds at Chico's Gay Pride Festival.

Gay and Lesbian visibility is not a staple in Chico; organizing the festival took courage and determination. In discussing the attitudes of the townmspeople, Nicki Wolff, lead singer of the band The Surge said, "We used to play lots of clubs in town. Then gradually word got around that 'those types' show up at our gigs. Now we can't book anywhere in town."

Photo by Mike Cook

Keith Johnson, gay rights lobbyist from Sacramento, helped promote AB101 at Chico's gay pride celebration.

In the end, however, the festival was relaxed and peaceful, thanks in part to the considerable support of the university, which provided the space, security, bathrooms, insurance and even tables and chairs. CSUC con-

See Chico on page 10

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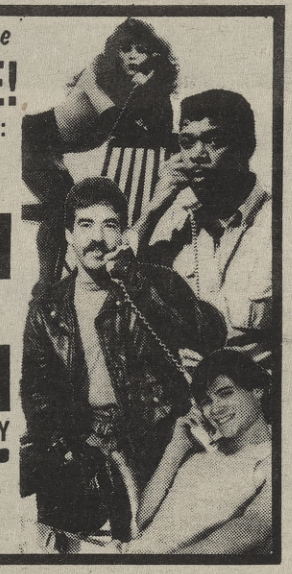

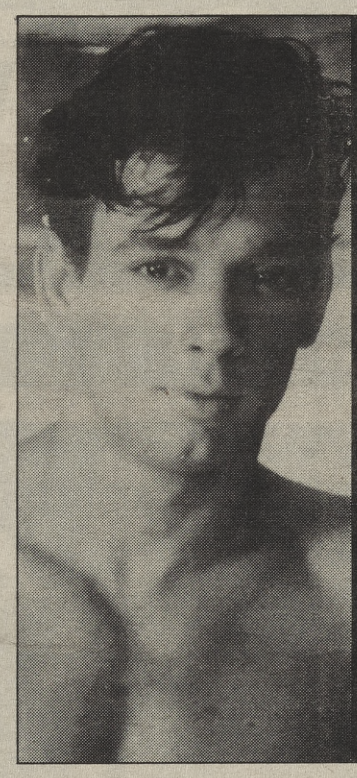

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Chico pride

from page 9

Photo by Mike Cook

Delbert strutting his/her ... feathers ... was the most photographed ... person ... at the festival.

cretely demonstrated its committment to educating the public, and festival Chairperson Eric Ruben was lavish in his gratitude to the school and to its liaison for student activities, Chela Patterson.

The festival had the air of a family picnic in the park. Musicians and speakers entertained and sparked discussion. Lavender Angels patrolled, casual but alert, along with a Chico officer who used to patrol Sacramento's Lavender Heights. CGNIE provided games. R.J.'s bar (soon to return to its name "900 Cherry Street") and the Stonewall Alliance kept festival-goers fed and their thirst quenched. Tables by diverse groups kept the information flowing: PFLAG, The Lambda Center, MGW, The Rainbow Festival, GLBA, Women's Cultural Productions, Stonewall Alliance and the Butte County AIDS Education Project among them. Delta Lambda Phi proudly announced its first rush this fall at CSUC.

There seemed to be a general concensus that Chico "did itself proud." It was an auspicious beginning to what will surely be a long tradition in Chico.▼

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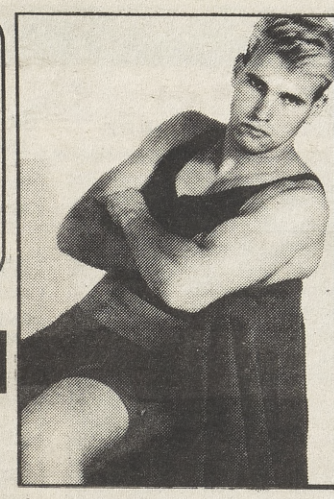

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commentary

Forum: Why men in drag?

by Frank Cummings
GUEST WRITER

Why men in drag? If we are to be free to realize our potential, why not? There are no simple reasons why men do drag, nor why women do drag. And drag is not limited to gender role cross-dressing. Drag includes leather drag, cowboy/girl drag, hippie drag, punk drag, any costume drag -- it could be said that all of our clothed life is a drag. Drag is an expression of one's elf, an expression that you feel comfortable in presenting to the world.

Why gay males in drag? For some, it is a kind of "street theatre." The fun comes from creating an illusion. They are "male actors" playing out a part. For other, its provides an opportunity to express their "feminine side," allowing them to play with new ideas and experiment with an alternate persona. For some, it is a political statement. For still others, it is an attention getting device -- and for getting attention, it is hard to beat.

Witness the Court System: led by Empress I Jose Sarria, the Courts, in 27 years, have expanded to all 50 states and have become one of the most valuable sources of funding gay and lesbian causes, in addition to being an important social network that has united many georgraphically diverse communities.

Witness the Stonewall Riots: led by Drag Queens who were mad as hell and not taking it any more. This watershed event ignited the Gay Rights' Movement.

Witness Harvey Fierstein *(Torch Song Trilogy)*: perhaps the most "out" gay male in the world; the *Ambassador* (ex officio) of the gay community to the straight world.

Are gay males in drag just men who need to pretend they are women in order to have sex with men? Honey, for the majority of Drag Queens I know, the first thing before sex is to take off the dress and make up.

Certainly only can find transgendered males (living as females fulltime) in the gay community, but in my experience they are a minority, and they are not prtending to be women in order to have sex; they are being all they can be. There are some who find the erotic attraction to clothing an essential part of their sexuality. There are some who embrace both gender roles and present themselves accordingly.

Can we say the transsexual male to female, who has not had surgery but is in a lesbian relationship with a genetic female is pretending to be a woman in order to have sex with a female?

Life is too complicated to make everything simple. There are almost as many gay, lesbian and bisexual role models as there are gays, lesbians and bisexuals. Isn't it time we moved beyond simple-minded categories and celebrate the diversity of our living experience?

Someone once said that it takes more balls than most men have in order to go out in public dressed as a woman. One thing I have always said is that it takes a real man to wear a dress, meaning you must be very sure of yourself and who you are.

If you can look beyond what a person is wearing and what they look like, you might find someone much like yourself and, just possibly, make a new friend!

(Billie Jean Jones also contributed to this commentary.)▼

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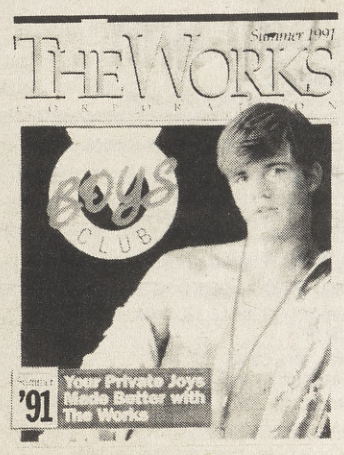

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The drag of political correctness

by Tobias Maxwell
OF MGW STAFF

I was at the Lambda Center a while back and there were a number of drag queens present, since it was election time for the court. I made some ineffectual and seemingly innocuous comment which was not received well. Though the reprimand was very slight and in passing, I walked away realizing, on that topic at least, that I was not politically correct (PC). Since the person pointing out the light to me was and is someone I dearly respect, it caused me a certain prise de conscience.

Whenever any of the numerous 'isms' born of the liberation movements of recent decades is challenged, the politically correct label is often raised as a means of placing the opponent on the defensive. In part, this is an effective way of maintaining the highly valued ground already won. But suggesting overtly or covertly that your stance is not PC, has the added advantage of labeling you as a potential oppressor. In a world where almost any issue can be politicized, the PC label can be a powerful tool.

As Gay Pride 1991 comes upon us, let me toss the salad bowl of liberation as I try to rethink my position on an issue I have been toying with for a while.

We have all heard or read the stories of those brave queens who finally stood up to the NYCPD at the Stonewall in 1969. And, in retrospect, I have laid numerous accolades at their feet and praised their actions over the years. Coming of age in the French Montreal gay bars of 1972-73, the demimonde of drag queens and overtly masculine women struck me as odd for no more than a second before sweeping me up with its fringed and tattered sequins. Afterall, this was the sexual minorities world, my world, the only world that I had waiting for me. It felt good to belong. In the French language where every word is genderized it was very easy to "she-ify" everything, so we did. The neutering effect of our vocabulary only struck me later on when I moved to English Toronto. By then, my sporadic involvement with gay drop-in centers and the political movement, along with my own anglicization process, had begun to help me re-identify with what I perceived as a more balanced and whole self. I no longer felt a need for the ghettoized trappings of speech and dress. I began to focus on my sexuality for what it was rather than how I had assumed it should or could be projected. I began to look more closely at what I had internalized.

It raised the all important question, "When do I ask, does this behavior come from oppression from liberation of the true self?"

Is what we celebrate as gay culture, that, or is it part of the culture of being oppressed?"

The issue of effeminacy is a strong one with me, and correlates with the above questions (apart from the question of what effeminacy is altogether). We are all born with our genetic make-up that will make some of us more rough and tumble, some more cautious, and some more sensitive than others. How we eventually choose to display these innate characteristics is what I question: the operative word being choice. Do any of us come out of the womb thrilled at the prospect of five-inch spiked heels, whalebone corsets and flowing sequins? Arguably some would answer yes. And I believe intrinsically that some possibly do.

When the issue is men loving men, does it make sense for some to parody women in order for it to be okay within their

See Drag on page 18

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Lou 689-3318; Hotline 394-3114; meet 3rd Mon., 6:30pm, Sierra 2 Center, 24th & 4th Ave.

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Social Hall, 2391 St. Mark's Way;
1st Mon., 7pm; 489-2340.

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Kathleen 362-4133 1st Saturdays

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27074 Patwin Rd..; 758-7727 2nd Sun., 7:30pm

DELTA HARVEST MCC
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DIGNITY AT ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL,
26th & K, Box 161765, 95816,
2nd, 4th Sun., 3pm, 552-1925

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St. Matthews, 414 Oak St., San Andreas
Brian 209-736-2126
2nd Sun. get-together; 4th Sun. liturgy.

LAVENDER PAGAN NETWORK
Box 1688, E.G. 95759, Joseph 687-6042

RESTORATION CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LDS, RLDS Church Bld., 2331 K St. Sunday School 1:30
Sacrament meeting 2:30 444-8291

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Box 24125, 95824; 3418 Broadway, 454-4762
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CSUS WOMEN'S CENTER
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Steven Naugle 451-6659
Kenneth Thompson (UCD) 756-7225

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Thurs. 8:30, Brian 441-7305

GAYS & LESBIANS AT ARC, 484-8340 Thurs., 11am

LAMBDA STUDENTS FOR EQUALITY, CSUS,
Brian Polejes 443-1765; Jennifer Greenman 456-3469

MEN'S COMING OUT GROUP
5:30 Mon meetings, Summer location: Lambda Center, 442-0185

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GENDER DYSPHORIA, Box 1895, 95866.

HIV/AIDS FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP
Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
4641 Marconi Ave., 1st, 3rd Thurs. 7pm; 483-5691

HIV/ARC/AIDS SUPPORT
Sutter General, 2nd, 4th Sat. 1pm; 924-1520

HIV+ LATINOS SUPPORT GROUP
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RIVER CITY MCC YOUTH GROUP
Box 245125, 95824; MCC Social Hall; Wed., 7pm

YOUTH GROUP
Lambda Center, 1931 L St. 442-0185 ; Fri. , 5:45pm

CHICO

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CSUC HEALTH CENTER, Confidential/low cost 898-6060

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GALLERIES

Archival Framing - "Snowcones in August," a summertime art exhibit for the whole family; special snowcone reception Sat., Aug. 7, 6-9pm; a benefit featuring art by differently-abled artists from the Alan Short Center, Stockton; 444-9624.

Cartoon Art Museum - "Electronic Comics & Computer Art" thru Sept. 14; 415-546-9481.

Crocker Art Museum - The Transparent Thread; The Tao of Contemporary Art; Sept. 6-Oct. 27; Kinglsey Centennial - Sept. 13-Oct. 27; Bountiful Harvest; 19th Century California Still Life - Nov. 15-Dec. 29; Alfred Jacob Miller - Jan. 10-Feb. 16, 1992; Photostroika; New Soviet Photography - Feb. 28-April 5, 1992; Highlights of the Early California Painting Collection - thru April 1992; Masterpieces of Early California Painting - April-June, 1992; 67th Annual Crocker-Kingsley Exhibition - April 25-June 4, 1992; 449-5423.

Downtown Artists, mixed media one night only, Sat., Aug. 10, 8-11pm, 1508 23 St., Sac. Participating artists: Deborah Allan, John DeNecochea, Chuck Ehlis, Steven V. Fuller, Eoin McGloughlin, Ann Roach, Peter Wedel.

Michael Himovitz Gallery (Downtown) - "Introductions" - David Airhart, Shigako Holliday, Barbara Leventhall Stern, Katrin Weise, Gavin Dillard; thru Aug. 3; 448-8723.

Michael Himovitz Gallery (Pavilions) - "Introductions" - Richard Hornaday; thru Aug. 3; 925-5917.

Matrix Gallery - Victoria Hamlin, Barbara Munter, and Mary Mendlein-Schroeder, acrylic and oil paintings with raku and burnished vessels, thru -Aug. 16; 441-4818.

THEATRE

Bay Area Playwrights Festival IV - 7 works to premiere by local writers; Last Stair and Stumble - Aug. 8; Cross-Dressing in the Depression - Aug. 9; Shall We Dance - Aug. 10; Inner Life - Aug. 11; Shall We Dance - Aug. 15; Cross-Dressing in the Depression - Aug. 16; The Sword, The Hand - Aug. 17; The Guest and On The Road - Aug. 18; The Guest and On The Road - Aug. 22; Inner Life - Aug. 23; Last Stair and Stumble - Aug. 24; The Word, The Hand - Aug. 25; 415-441-8822.

Carmichael Civic Theatre - Pal Joey - Oct. 18-Nov. 30; 489-6880.

Eureka Theatre Company - La Nona (The Granny) Sept. 21-Oct. 20; Two Rooms - Nov. 16-Dec. 15; Nightlight (Feb. 15-March 14, 1992); Show & Tell (April 4-May 2, 1992); Abundance (May 30-June 27, 1992); 415-558-9898.

Foothill Theatre Co. - Till Death Do Us Part - Sept. 13-14; 265-8587.

Garbeau's Dinner Theatre - Agatha Christie's Towards Zero - thru Sept. 21; Windows - Aug. 19; 985-6361.

Music Circus - Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat - July 22-28; Me & My Girl - July 20-Aug. 4; Sweet Charity Aug. 5-11; La Cage Aux Folles - Aug. 12-18; Sophisticated Ladies - Aug. 19-25; Grand Hotel - Aug. 27-Sept. 1; 441-3163.

Sacramento City Actors Theatre - As You Like It - thru Aug. 2; Othello - thru Aug. 3; 449-7228.

Sacramento Theatre Company - All My Sons - Sept. 13-Oct. 6; A Raisin in the Sun - Oct. 25-Nov. 17; How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying - Dec. 6-Jan. 5. 1992; The Fifth of July - Jan. 24-Feb. 16, 1992; Latins Anonymous - March 6-29, 1992; At the Still Point - April 24-May 17; 443-6722.

Show Below - For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rain is Enuf - Aug. 9-24; Witness for the Prosecution - Sept. 13-Oct. 19; The Glass Menagerie - Nov. 8-Dec. 14; A Walk in the Woods - Nov. 22-Dec. 14; Shirley Valentine - Jan. 3-Feb. 8, 1992; Who's Afraid of Virgina Woolf - Feb. 28-April 4; Breaking the Code - April 24-May 30' 446-2787.

Theatre Rhinoceros - Drag Queens in Outer Space - thru Aug.3; 415-861-5079.

Windows Theatre Troupe - "Paganoia" Aug. 23, Unitarian Universalist Society, 2425 Sierra Blvd., 8pm; $5-$7 donation to benefit conscientious objectors, sponsored by Students Against War, 456-9115.

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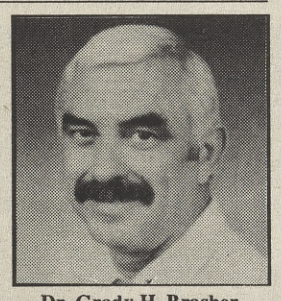

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"What does it feel like to have your body let go of tension?

Lesbian erotica adds to pornography controversy

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Photo by Susan Stewart

"Drawing the Line"

BOISE -- Since the mid 1970's, lesbians have been fighting about pornography, asking two major questions "Does it contribute to violence against women?" and "Does it turn me on?"

A recently-published book of 40 postcards taken from a traveling exhibit of photographs adds to the controversy by giving a myriad of opposing answers to those queries. In the process, "Drawing the Line" by the lesbian art collective "Kiss & Tell," shows the diversity of the lesbian community -- and its widely varying response to sexuality.

"Everyone's idea of love, of sexual imagery is different," said Susan Stewart, 39, one of the three "Kiss & Tell" members.

"We wanted to ask 'What are these images?' and 'What do they mean to each of us?'"

"Drawing the Line" begins with typically romantic, postcard-pretty images of women making love but rapidly moves to more graphic, sexually explicit images. Towards the end, the images include many that are considered beyond the pale -- bondage, voyeurism and menages-a-trois.

By running the gamut of images from the acceptable to the unacceptable, "Drawing the Line" forces the viewer not only to face prejudices but create limits -- where would they draw the line?

The original exhibit -- that ranged from 65 to 100 photographs -- allowed women to write anonymous comments about the photographs on the walls. Men were provided a book for comments.

The answers, collected on the back of each of the postcards, are as varied as the women who saw the original art that toured the U.S., Australia and Canada from 1988 to 1990:

"This makes her an object."

"I could stand being objectified like this."

"This is more tasteful and subtle than the rest of the lot and therefore more erotic."

"Not for me. I find the subtlety boring and non-engaging."

The anonymity allowed women to express their feelings about sexual imagery and practices publicly for the first time. The response was startling.

Women criticized not only the images but each other. Nothing was sacred -- from very personal comments about abuse to tentative attempts at creating standards.

"We are dealing with centuries of pent-up aggression, centuries of unexpressed desire," said Stewart.

Ironically, the three women who created the photographs, Stewart, Lizard Jones, 30, and Persimmon Blackbridge, 40, didn't plan to be erotic artists.

Quite the opposite.

They all are veterans of the anti-porn activism of the early 1980's that surfaced in the wake of the sexually liberated, let-it-all-hand-out 1970's.

For many years, the three worked to outlaw pornography because they felt it degraded women. They picketed porn theaters and helped organize "Take Back the Night" marches.

But over time, they each began to find that the feelings in the head didn't jibe with the response of the body. They found that the forbidden images -- the ones they said should be censored -- were erotic.

"Some of the images were turning me on," Stewart admitted. "How did I explain that?"

"Kiss and Tell" formed six years ago to test the contradictions. Each found erotic images that went beyond the bounds of accepted romantic sterotype and spoke to her own experience and desire.

"We wanted to explore our own sexuality," said Stewart.

After years of discussion, the three decided to see what images they could create by taking photographs of women in sex scenes. The only rule they set was that they all had to agree on the components of the scene -- or they didn't do them.

"It was completely consensual," said Stewart. "We all agreed on everything."

Stewart is quick to point out that the three friends never engaged in sex outside the sessions and that in three years of working together, they "never had a single fight."

For the group -- whose art has been called pornographic because of the images of sado-masochistic situations -- there are two major differences between their art and pornography:

* Women produced the work and agreed on its contents;

* No money changed hands.

"Pornography is exploitation," said Stewart. "This is not like male-controlled pornography: Nobody got paid; nobody did anything they didn't want to do.

"Our is an exploration of women's power."

For Stewart -- and for many of the women whose responses are recorded in the book -- that difference comes across clearly.

"These photos are very loving -- and it shows."

The trust, the closeness of the three women is an essential part of the photographs -- as is the point of the view.

The women are focused on each other -- not on an outside viewer as in pornography.

In only two photographs is the viewer an integral part of the scene: a head-on, gender-fuck portrait and

See Erotic on page 18

RESUMES

COACHING FOR INTERVIEWS

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Exclusive interview with David Henry Hwang...

Gay-positive playwriting legend in the making

by Michael Gorman
MGW ASSOCIATE EDITOR

On Wednesday August 7 at 8:00 PM, the Tony Award winning play *M. Butterfly* will open at the Curran Theatre in San Francisco. On July 19th, the author, David Henry Hwang, granted *Mom Guess What!* aninterview. If the play is as eloquent as its author is off-the-cuff, it certainly deserves its considerable critical acclaim. Barring Armaggedon, this interviewer will be there to find out.

Some critics are fingering David Hwang as the next American playwriting legend, and *M. Butterfly* is the play that has put him in the running. *M. Butterfly* was sparked by a newspaper account of a French diplomat who passed information to China after falling in love with a Chinese opera star and spy whom he thought for twenty years was a woman, but who was actually a man. Most of the reviews in the straight press, and some of the people involved in the production have downplayed the homoerotic content of the play, but David was refreshingly frank:

"I definitely feel that this is a play about a gay relationship. The central question, plotwise, is, 'How could the diplomat not know?' there are many ways to approach the question. My way was to focus on the cross-cultural aspect, the fantasy of the East. My heritage affects my point of view."

When asked if the diplomat, Gallimard, could be seen as embracing the myth of the mysterious submissive woman of the East (like Madame Butterfly in the opera of that name) as a kind of closet, to avoid facing his own homosexuality, the author replied,

"Oh absolutely! I would be very interested to see what a gay author would do with the story, with Gallimard's really wanting to believe he's a heterosexual.

"It has to do with the almost primitive or childish desire we have to define ourselves. Clearly it's a gay relationship. But if Gallimard believes he is having a heterosexual relationship, the boundaries become blurred, fuzzy."

> "... whenever you have a power structure, the minorities on the bottom have to understand the ones on the top to survive."
>
> *David Henry Hwang*

Like the gender bending of the drag queens?

"Yes, definitely. Culture bending as well. Like the Kabuki notion of Onigato, the male actor who specializes in playing women, the belief that only a woman can be a woman, but only a man can be the idealized notion of a woman. But its the man's notion, and that's of course sexist.

"One of the things I wanted to do with this play is to have straight guys out in the audience get turned on with what they think is this beautiful woman, then have to face their own feelings about its being a man. This desire to categorize ourselves is much too rigid."

Actor Philip Anglim, who plays Gallimard, once told an interviewer that Mr. Hwang despises Gallimard. Does he?

"Philip gave that interview at a particularly rough point about playing the role, somewhere near Baltimore. I think he might recant now. As an Asian, I identify with Song (the opera star). As a man I identify with Gallimard. If there are things I despise in him, they are things I feel uncomfortable with in myself. I have empathy for him."

People who prefer their gender roles clearly defined and delineated usually despise gays and lesbians. What does M. Butterfly (the M. being the French abbreviation for monsieur) have to say to such people?

"I think it says that if you cleave too closely onto your definitions, you stand a good chance of living in self-delusion and ultimately maybe destroying yourself. Gallimard's tragedy is that he cannot get past his definitions."

Asked if he has had any negative reaction from the Right-wing Traditional Values people, David replied,

"I haven't been aware of it. This tour hasn't travelled to many cities associated with that faction."

Intentionally so?

"Intentional by default, maybe. Perhaps those cities didn't ask to book us. I'd like to get more reaction from them."

Do you think that the people who most need to hear your message are not in the audiences?

"Unfortunately, that's a given in art. We have had a few people walk out. But the message is reaching a larger group of people than if the show did not have the mantle of commercial success and Broadway. And there's something about this play that makes the message more palatable. I'm not sure what. I don't know if that's good or not."

What is the most important thing you want people to take away from M. Butterfly?

"I hope that audiences are asking questions. I hope that this play is provoking discussion. Art is not dictatorial, but I do think art has a part to provoke. East, West, men, women, straight, gay: are these categories useful to us? Are the stereotypes useful to us?"

What does M. Butterfly say about the relationship between East and West?

"Simply that both sides have a tendency to be mired in stereotypes of one another. In general it's been easier for the East to understand the West, because whenever you have a power structure, the minorities on the bottom have to understand the ones on the top to survive. It's easier for gay people to understand straight people than for straight people to understand gays. But all that is in flux. The West has to get our act together and get away from the stereotypes."

You protested when British producer Cameron MacKintosh cast Jonathan Pryce (a Caucasian actor) in Miss Saigon. What were your reasons?

"There is a long tradition of 40 or 50 years of Caucasian actors playing Asians, usually badly. It seems to me sad that given the advances Asian actors have made that it could happen now without comment. I want to see a world where Jonathan Pryce can play anything he wants. But 90% of plays today continue to cast all White. I think they should cast minorities in minority roles until that point of equity is reached where, for instance, in the new play *Open Shadowland,* T.S. Eliot could be played by James Earl Jones. Maybe the audiences today could handle that casting, but the producers don't think so. So they cast White.

When Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund in New York decided to use *Miss Saigon* as a fundraiser, many gays and lesbians protested that the play is racist and sexist. Do you think so?

"To me the controversy over content was more interesting, but given my involvement in the other protest, I sat it out. The producers tried to mitigate the worst parts of the Madame Butterfly story, but I think it's out of touch with the way the world is changing. When I saw it, though, I was less struck by racism and sexism as that it was boring."

At this year's national gay and lesbian writing conference sponsored by Outlook quarterly journal, Edward Albee angered a great many of us by accusing gay and lesbian writers of ghettoizing ourselves by only writing about gays and lesbians. Most openly gay writers today believe we must tell our own story. Similarly, some critics believe your play *Rich Relations* failed because you did not write an Asian-American story. Do you think that is true? Albee said a writer is a writer and can tell any story.

"I have great admiration for Edward Albee. It's true that a writer is a writer, but we have to be realistic about what causes us to have the outlook on life that we have. It's simplistic to say that Asians only write about Asians. I see things a certain way because I am Asian. I see things a certain way because I am male. I think Albee would agree with that, why not the fact that he is gay affecting his outlook?

"I think I understand why he said those things. In his day to be categorized in a minority meant you were relegated to second class literary citizenship. But that has changed. The culture has come to realize that to be a black writer is no more limiting than, say, a southern writer like Tennessee Williams. That's partly because of the people in the past who were willing to go out on a limb and write honestly stuff that lasts. The other reason is demographic and has nothing to do with us writers."

People talk about your plays exploding myths, about Asians, about gender; does myth have a place in a culture?

"I don't think a culture can exist without some myths. Stereotypes will always be with us because people can't spend their whole day processing every detail. We have to generalize to function. What we have to ask ourselves is, "Which myths are appropriate for our age?" The myth of the submissive East hinders us from moving through the world. Myths have a place historically. Do we regard Madame Butterfly as a myth from the past, or one that continues to define our age? I don't hate Madame Butterfly given its time, but what is progressive in one era calcifies and becomes reactionary in another era.

"I'm happy about the degree to which M. Butterfly addresses our age. I don't know if it will make sense twenty years from now. That type of immortality doesn't concern me. I'm interested in addressing the age I live in. If what I write makes sense in another time so much the better."

Gays and lesbians often say that our very existence poiticizes us. Is that so for Asians in America?

"Yes. I'm of the school that feels most acts have political implications. Being part of a minority community makes us political. Even on a personal basis, to change people's impressions about a larger group is a political act."

You're doing a script about Oscar Wilde. Why Oscar Wilde?

"I was working on a movie musical, but now maybe a stage musical. I've always loved Oscar Wilde. Malcolm McLarin, who managed the Sex Pistols, came to me with a story I liked a lot. It gave me an opportunity to explore how we become brave enough to make certain moral choices. Why did Wilde not flee England between his first and second trials? He was given every opportunity. How did he come to that point to decide what he did?"

Any final comment?

"It is important to note that all of these struggles are interlinked. Minorities tend to understand other minorities on an intuitive level. Sexism, racism, homophobia: we're basically talking about the same impulse -- to downgrade the other. We have a lot more in common than we have differences."▼

> *"Sexism, racism, homophobia; we're basically talking about the same impulse -- to downgrade the other."*

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Paris is Burning is hot!

Michael Gorman
OF MGW STAFF

Jennie Livingston looks like Yale. Visually she could fit in on any East Coast society "A" list. So what's a young, White, preppie-looking woman doing at a gay Ball in Harlem? Demonstrating that looks can be deceiving,for a visionary young lesbian filmmaker and for an African-American drag queen. *Paris Is Burning,* opening at the Tower Theatre on August 9, is Livingston's award-winning documentary on the gay Balls in New York. If in Oz people are not judged by appearances, then *Paris Is Burning* is one sign post on the yellow brick road.

The Balls, for those who have not yet heard, are competitive and extravagant gatherings of gays in which contestants "walk" (similarly to a model on a runway, but sometimes incorporating dance and lipsync) in various categories in some kind of drag; most categories involve crossdressing, but there are also categories such as male sportswear, Wall Street and voguing. (Those in Sacramento who have attended a CGNIE Coronation will have some sense of the look and feel of the Balls, sans official competition.) Competitors win their categories by being the most "real": creating the illusion most believably.

The categories are based on societal aspirations of wealth, fashion and success often unattainable for inner-city people of color. The Balls are about dreams. Livingston's film captures that with humor, candid honesty and sometimes pathos.

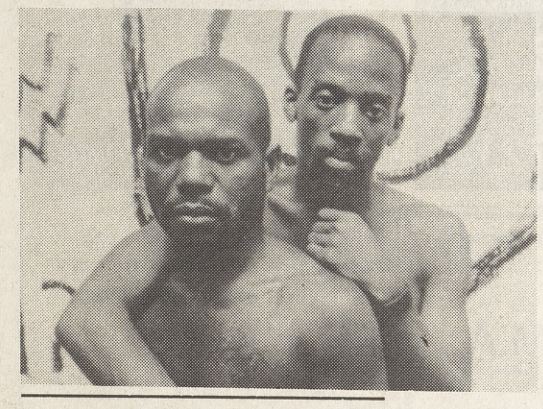
Paris Is Burning does what every documentary should but few accomplish; it allows the subjects of the film to define themselves. There is no judgement by majority standards, no pseudo-British voice overlayed like God telling the viewer how to think and react. The voices we hear are the voices of the Balls, of the streets, of the "brothers and sisters." We see the shining moments of fame and glamour at the Balls, but we also see the struggle in the streets to survive in a straight, white society. We see the "Houses" that grew up around the Ball competitions as surrogate families for disowned gay sons and lesbian daughters, each centered around a male "Mother" striving to keep his "Children" off drugs and alive and healthy for the next Ball. The filmmaker trusted the people to tell their own story, and that trust was returned in the candid and moving voices of her subjects.

It is strikingly appropriate that the film ends with a decidedly African-American rendition of the song "Over The Rainbow" That, in the end, is what the Balls are all about.

In a time when forces from the right are attempting to silence gays and lesbians and herd us back into closets, it is imperative that we listen to and preserve our story, in all its diversity. *Paris Is Burning* shows us one tile in the mosaic that is us, but it is a tile every one of us should see. Do not miss it.

Paris Is Burning will open at the Tower Theatre on August 9. Call 443-1982 for show times.▼

Of *Tongues Untied* and broadcast courage



Marlon Riggs (front) and poet Essex Hemphill appear in Riggs' innovative multiple-award-winning videotape *Tongues Untied.*

Photo by Ron Simmons

Michael Gorman
OF MGW STAFF

All art attempts at some level to seek out deeper meaning in order to enlighten delight and challenge. On rare occassions a work of art comes along that is so intensely clear in its vision that viewing it is at the same time frightening and beautiful. Such a work defies casual viewing, reaches inside and seduces out tears, laughter and head-spinning thought. Such a work Marlon Rigg's film, *Tongues Untied.*

While PBS stations across America refused to air the controversial award-winning documentary *Tongues Untied,* by Marlon Riggs, Sacramento's KVIE demonstrated its committment to balanced programming by airing the show on the

See Tongues on page 18

Fairies in the garden

by Valentina Zeff
and Melissa Reyes
OF MGW STAFF

The Sacramento Men's Chorus' latest musical, "When I Was Young," featured everything from a school gang and singing vegetables to dancing garden fairies. This imaginative and entertaining production grew out of SMC Music Director Carl K. Naluai, Jr.'s desire to create a unifying vehicle or theme for the presentation of a collection of diverse musical scores. The end product was a show that combined many of Carl's childhood memories with the fictitional reminiscences of the protagonist Jonny Walker, played by Paul Jones. In the opening scene, Jonny begins a conversation with his therapist, in an attempt to uncover the reason for his present unhappiness, and is asked to delve into his past to relate significant events and relationships from his childhood. Through Jonny's eyes, the audience journeys through the sometimes painful, often humorous experiences of growing up. Taunted by his peers for being too scholastic, beaten up by Teddy's gang for refusing to join them, embarrassed by having to go to Forest Ranger camp instead of becoming a Boy Scout, Jonny nevertheless manages to enjoy being a kid and even befriends Teddy (Steven P. Watson), by coming to the rescue when Teddy loses his way in the woods. In one scene, Jonny, his parents, and his new friend Teddy sit around a dinner table while the adult Jonny recalls his mother's cooking as "boiled" and "grey." Soon after, the very vegetables of which Jonny spoke present themselves on stage, the broccoli (Timothy J. Cicinato) singing about how it feels to be green - a color which few seem to find appetizing. After recounting a number of other adventures, Jonny realizes that his unhappiness has all stemmed from having forgotten the simple things that made him happy as a child - making friends, learning new skills tending to his garden, and loving life despite its obstacles. Besides the fine choral performances, the show was very well directed and choreographed by Debby Bell. The splendid costumes, from the dinner vegetables to the garden fairy, were all designed by Bob Austin, and co-producer Timothy J. Cicinato organized the Saturday evening performance as a benefit for the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES). Overall, a worthwhile and enjoyable event. Be sure to catch future performances by the Sacramento Men's Chorus!▼

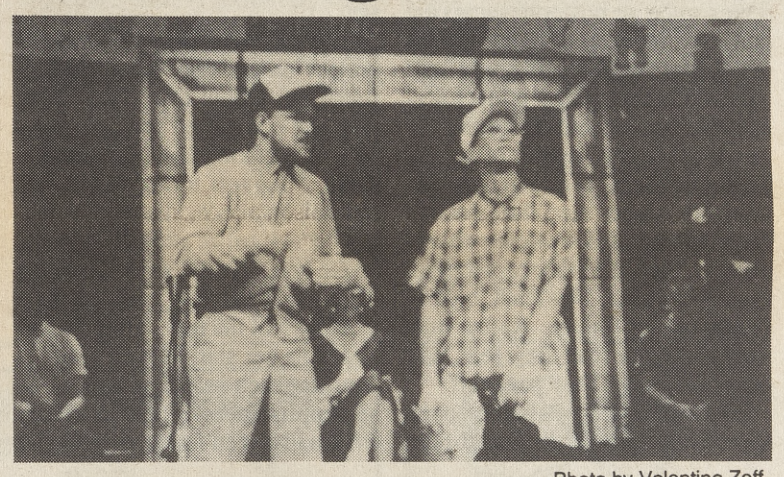


Photo by Valentina Zeff

The Sacramento Men's Chorus recently performed the musical "When I Was Young" as a benefit for the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES).

La Cage returns to Sacramento

La Cage Aux Folles, Jerry Herman and Harvey Fierstein's record-breaking Broadway hit of 1983, promenades and dances into Sacramento August 12-18 starring P.J. Benjamin and Tom Urich, repeating the roles they played in Music Circus' hugely successful 1988 production. Nominated for six Tonys in 1984, this spectacular show took home the awards for Best Musical, Best Book, and Best Score.

Although it's a bigger than life show with lots of color and thetrical magic, the musical is really just an old-fashioned, sentimental love story with family at its very core.

The story is about Georges, owner of *La Cage Aux Folles,* a St. Tropez nightclub featuring female impersonators in its floor show, and his lover Albin, a.k.a. Azaza, queen of the drags and star of the shows. When Georges' son, Jean-Michel, becomes engaged to a young woman with very straight-laced parents, he suddenly feels ashamed of Albin and tries to exclude him from the

See La Cage on page 18

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growin'

Procrastination ... what next?

by Sandra Warne, M.A.
OF MGW STAFF

I've devoted my energy over the last 10 weeks to discussing the "harder" addictions and compulsions. Perhaps some of you have read what I've had to say, with the comforting thought that what I was discussing didn't really pertain to you. Because I don't like to leave anybody out, I've decided to turn my attention to the behaviors that are not commonly thought of as too threatening but nonetheless serve to divert us from our problems at hand.

Procrastination ... "the art of keeping up with yesterday." In more charitable moments, I think of this as a rather charming little flaw, but when it starts getting in the way of all the things we'd like to get out of our lives, it's no longer quite so charming or harmless.

"Time lost procrastinating can take years out of a person's life," according to William Knaus, psychologist and author of the book *Do It Now: How to Stop Procrastinating*. It saps enormous energy, emotion and time. But worse yet, the fears, self-doubts, and how tolerance for the unpleasant that are part of the pattern can lead to propensity to abuse alcohol, anxiety and depression."

Stewers and doers

The little lies that we tell ourselves when we postpone things are really expressions of inner turmoil of two basic types: "self-doubt" and "discomfort dodging," a low tolerance for tension and frustration.

Self-doubt is a crippler of action. Self-doubters tend to be the "stewers" rather than the "doers." They blame and criticize themselves. They are preoccupied with their own faults. This leads to paralyzing fear of failure. Rather than start a project that they fear may come off badly, they put it off.

Self-doubt reaches its highest pitch in perfectionists who have such high could measure up to their own expectations.

There is nothing really wrong with striving for excellence; it's when you make the mistake of confusing doing the best you can with the best there is. And since nobody can do the best there is, they end up doing everything late — or never.

Procrastinators often have an un-

realistic sense of time, consistently underestimating the amount of time it will take to complete a given task. Procrastinators are also often "magical thinkers." They hope to be seized by inspiration before they do anything.

One of the procrastinatin's saddest ironies is that its victims can tell you what they ought to do, but can't seem to get around to doing it. Awareness by itself isn't enough. There comes a time when you must act.

Many procrastinators fail to start a project unless they have time to finish the whole task; they value only the completed project. As a way of breaking through that impasse, I suggest trying the "swiss cheese" approach. Instead of taking on the entire project at once, "poke holes" in the work by taking whatever time you have to do a small part of the task. That way its easier to get started, you learn to consider each half-hour's work an accomplishment , and you may eventually even finish the job.

yourself only to starting a task and working on it for five minutes. At the end of five minutes, decide if you'll continue for another five minutes. This method makes the frightening first step easier and, as you become involved,the work is likely to gain momentum and seem simpler.

Other ways of getting yourself started:

- Procrastinators tend to think in "global terms." Instead of aiming to put storm windows in by November 15, they vow to "save money on energy." Your goals must be specific and measurable. Divide steps needed into small do-able parts.
- Develop the habit of starting it now, when you think of it, rather than adding it to your list of things to be done.
- Once you have your momentum going — transfer that energy to another project, like writing a long neglected letter. It's easier than starting from zero later.
- Reword yourself by scheduling a pleasant event after you've completed a boring or unpleasant one.
- Demand less perfection of yourself, you'll find you can do more.

Lastly, in your personal war against putting things off, don't expect instants results. Procrastination is not an absolute habit but part of a whole "psychological mosaic" of behavior and these things don't change quickly. By its very nature procrastination is resistant to change. So play for small percentage gains, reward yourself for your progress, and think about long-awaited, long term goals your small gains are bringing closer.

Sandra Warne, M.A. is currently in private practice as a Registered Marriage, Family and Child Counselor Intern. She is also part of a program with the AIDS Foundation as a volunteer mental health professional with a network that provides low cost indiviudual. or group counseling to persons living with AIDS/ARC and their families and significant others.▼

farewells

Mark A. Rosenfeld

NEW YORK — Mark Allan Rosenfeld, who was taken prisoner by Iraqi troops in Kuwait last year and escaped to the American Embassy, died Thursday of AIDS. He was 54.

Mr. Rosenfeld died at New York University Medical Center, his family said.

Mr. Rosenfeld, president of New York-based Car International, arrived in Kuwait Aug. 2, 1990, the day Iraq invaded.

He was held three weeks in the Meridien Hotel in Kuwait City. When American hostages were being transferred to Baghdad, Mr. Rosenfeld and seven others sneaked to the hotel basement, later seizing a hotel van and racing past Iraqi guards to the embassy.

At the embassy, Mr. Rosenfeld helped organize food rationing, cooking and sanitation for other stranded Americans. He returned to New York in early October.

He is survived by his mother, a brother, and a sister.

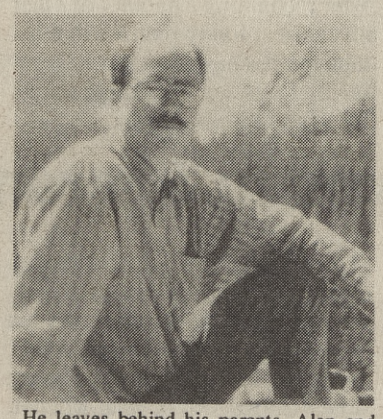
Sacramento Bee

Steven W. Koppes

Steven Koppes, a delightful friend to many, passed away July 19 at the age of 34. He was a pioneering member of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation's Hand-to-Hand Program, a United Way Loaned Executive, and a rousing baritone with the Sacramento Men's Chorus.

"We are radiant energy dancing playfully through life effortlessly, effectively and lovingly, and all we have to give and receive is love," was the standard he lived by. He continually gave from the heart without being asked, touching many lives as he passed.

Steve was Hand-to-Hand's first practical support applicant, the first practical support interviewer, and first practical support volunteer to be matched with a client. He was a long-time facilitator (instructor) with Hand-to-Hand's volunteer training program, conducted weekly support sessions using the principles of attitudinal healing, and supported the values of the "Experience Weekend." He will remain in the hearts of the hundreds who knew him as their friend as well as their teacher.



He leaves behind his parents, Alan and Joan, three brothers, and his beloved partner, J.P. Eres III. Steven also leaves us with cherished memories of his radiant energy and bountiful love, his playful personality and sparkling smile, his goodness and his strength, and he will be sorely missed by those who had the pleasure to know him.▼

THANKS Sacramento Men's Chorus

The Staff and Board of Directors of CARES wishes to express sincere thanks to the Sacramento Men's Chorus and their Board of Directors for their contribution and support in making the benefit performance of "When I Was Young" such a great success.

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▼ **pet talk**

Stroke a pet ... relieve that stress

by Joan B. Guertin
OF MGW STAFF

I've come to accept the fact that stress is a normal part of my job. It hasn't always been this way. I can remember back a few years when training dogs was actually my stress reliever. Now that it has become a successful business ... enter added stresses ... I've had to look elsewhere for the stress relief. I've found it in feathers and fur.

A year ago last Easter my friend Roberta at Land Park Pet gifted me with an adorable brown and white mini-lop bunny. Although Bunny isn't the cuddly type, I did get a great deal of pleasure watching her hop about the kitchen. Then this past Easter a trip to Pets To Go resulted in the addition of Calvin who is a calico-colored King, which means he looks as if he stuck his whiskers in the light socket and it kinked his fur around his toes and his whiskers. Calvin is a cuddler. It is amazing how much time one can spend watching the bunnies play. Which is exactly what I found myself doing whenever the business stresses would mount up. And, stroking Calvin's rich, soft fur keeps the old blood pressure down to normal. I'd read that often, but didn't really believe it until the bunnies joined the household. Who needs more ... I've got the dogs and the bunnies and very normal blood pressure.

Enter the ducks! Now that is a REAL stress reliever. An even dozen Indian Runner ducks have joined the household (well, not in the house, but out in the duck yard) and life has become even mellower. You can watched the little critters grow by the day. They seem to change and enlarge overnight. They come in an assortment of colors and I find myself leaning over the fence talking to them and calling them by name. Black Beauty is the first to greet me each morning and comes the closest when I put out the feed and the rest seem to follow her lead. She's an unusual glossy black with a white slash on her long elegant neck. And, since she is so trusting, the rest have gained courage and are coming in closer every day.

The Indian Runner is a unique breed of duck that runs instead of flies. They are a placid duck that deals well with stress, so they are ideal for training my herding dogs, which is the main reason that I bought them. I never figured on the added benefit of being a genuine stress buster. Just watching them scoot around the duck pen catching bugs is a kick and a half. Last Saturday night I even found my landlady setting up a card table for a picnic dinner down by the chicken and duck pens so that she and her hubby could enjoy a romantic and relaxing meal watching our feathered friends. They were the ones that steered me to the Duck Lady, Judy Campbell. They brought home eight exotic chickens after a visit to Judy's place in Orangevale.

Actually, Judy is better known as the "Goose Lady" by her Orangevale neighbors who drop off hurt and orphaned ducks and geese which she then doctors. If you should be looking for colorful exotic ducks or chickens for pets or for the eggs, Judy will be happy to sell them to you. Forget shopping for the holiday goose or duck at Judy's place as all of her feathered babies are lovingly hand-raised and only go for pets. I certainly never realized that the ducks could be so entertaining; sometimes when dealing with people or paperwork is a drag, I'll stroll outside and spend some time watering the ducks. It doesn't take that long to freshen the swimming pools, but watching the ducks cavort is a magnet that keeps me standing by the fence with hose in hand. When I finally head back to the office my attitude is better and I always have a smile on my face.

Sometimes writing a column can be stressful. Finding interesting subjects sometimes can strain the ole grey matter upstairs. This morning it was easy ... I turned a pair of bunnies loose in the kitchen and watched them romp, then I added Penny the Corgi and Chiquita the Chihuahua and the four of them are having a grand time. Of course, I get the feeling that Calvin thinks he's a dog and gets right in the middle of any romp. Bunny is a bit more cautious.

Never a dull moment around this place. Taking care of the livestock now takes a little longer, but it has such an upside that it is worth it. On the other hand, I'm not sure that I would want to go back to living without the assortment of animals that currently share my home. Of course, I supposed I should be worried about what to do with all the duck eggs that eventually put in an appearance. Anybody out there like duck eggs?

Joan B. Guertin, owner of Common Sense Dog Training is a Canine Behaviorist and trainer utilitzing a psychological, nonaggressive approach to training and problem solving. She has trained since 1957. Watch for dates of upcoming classes.▼

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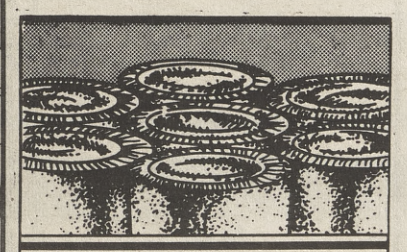

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▼ continuation page

Erotic

from page 13

one of two women making it in a public restroom were the aggressor is obviously concerned with being caught.

In pornography, however, the viewer is the central presence as models look to the camera, twisting their heads and craning their necks to include the prospective buyer.

"We were not producing images for the marketplace," said Stewart, although they intend to sell the photographs and are now selling the book.

Stewart thinks that part of the problem with the issue of pornography is the confusion in many women's minds between love and sex.

"'Drawing the Line' is not about love but sexual practices."

Stewart hopes that by testing the boundaries of sexual imagery, art like "Drawing the Line" will help clarify the differences between the two.

As might be expected from a book that seeks to ask questions, the group doesn't claim to have -- or provide -- answers.

"We are only three white women of a certain age," said Stewart. "We could only do a small slice of such a diverse community."

Whatever the limitations, these three women from Canada have shown a much wider range of explicit sexual imagery than is usually exhibited and have shown publicly what many women do in private.

While some women might find the images disturbing, others will find the courage to explore the uncharted vastness of lesbian sexuality not only refreshing but liberating.

*Dell Richards is a syndicated journalist whose book, **Lesbian Lists** is available nationwide.▼*

Drag

from page 11

psyches? Doesn't that prove our oppressors' point — that the only sexual combination is opposites? Taking the masculine trappings of society and stretching them to the fetishistic extreme of leathermen strikes me merely as a counterbalance, which isn't saying much.

As we struggle as sexual minorities for the right to do certain things, I wonder if we need to look at whether that certain thing is of value; whether it comes from health, lack of health or somewhere in between; always keeping in mind who is defining the standard of health.

John Money talks about lovemaps as the path each one of us takes that leads to our adult erotic lives. This raises the full spectrum of the nature/nurture argument. To use a mathematical construct, as much as nature creates the means and extremes, nurture has the capacity to alter both. I am not talking about what we are, but, rather what we do with it and how we express it. In part this is very much a choice. In demanding acceptance for what we are it is incumbent upon us to search for deeper self-knowledge, to study our emerging history as well as our glorious if hidden past. There is a font of role models to inspire us. To quote Ancient Greece and use that as argument and justification for man-boy love is a gross misreading of our history at best; at worst, it is manipulating it out of historical context as if the culture of Athens, Greece had been no more than a mere statistic.

Some might well argue, what better role model than one of those drag queens who fought back in '69 — what of their courage? I might argue that they had more at stake in trying to pass in society, so they had more anger to contend with that fed their courage. But had they lived in a world of sexual acceptance where the robes of straight oppression had not existed to don in the first place, who is to say what scenario might have unfolded. The fact that the world of oppression did exist, did it feed only their courage, or did it create their queen status as well? Political correctness aside, how we come to our courage is sometimes important in order to understand how sustaining that courage will be.▼

Right

from page 3

United States and help them to organize. We all have to be dedicated to maintain the separation of church and state," Sloan said.

Indeed, Bob Simonds, president of Citizens for Excellence in Education, a group which claims to have elected 450 school board members throughout California is quoted as saying his candidates espouse Judeo-Christian values. "They believe in the Old and New Testament values, they don't want children taught that abortion is nothing more than a woman's right or that homosexuality is just another sexual activity."

Many fundamentalist churches are registering people to vote after Sunday sermons which decry the evils of abortion and homosexuality. But Steve Baldwin, a political consultant and statewide political coordinator for Dannemeyer is one of the people who fostered dozens of anti-abortion candidates for local offices in San Diego last year. Baldwin said, "We're not even near the gay community in terms of political organization but you're just seeing the tip of the iceberg. It will continue to grow."▼

La Cage

from page 15

crucial meeting with the girl's parents. The entire show focuses on the family and the love and longing, expectations and disappointments its members experience.

Tom Urich comes to Music Circus directly from a successful six month run of *La Cage Aux Folles* in New York, after two years in the Broadway production.

La Cage Aux Folles will be presented in the Music Circus tent at 1419 H St. Performances are at 8:30pm Monday-Saturday, and 7:30pm Sunday. Tickets are $20 Monday and Tuesday, and $23 Wednesday-Sunday and are available at the box office or by phone at 916-441-3163.▼

Family

from page 3

rights of all families. Particularly those which do not fit into this pattern." Laurie McBride, Executive Director of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE) said, "This is an attempt to strengthen family in terms of form rather than function — we should be nurturing and centering in our own families rather than creating this kind of legislation." An A.C.L.U. attorney flatly stated, "This legislation is unnecessary — we don't know what it does — it could have a negative and unintended effect through interpretation by the courts. Molest and abuse cases will be more difficult to prosecute." Later, during a hallway conversation, one of the attorneys said, "This is just bad law." The bill was discussed by members of the committee with Jackie Speier (D-San Francisco), suggesting amendments to the bill. She later suggested that one of the amendments she would suggest would be changing the marriage provisions from "a man and a woman" to "between two people." Marguerite Archie-Hudson was making an obvious effort to be kind as she said, "I believe Mr. Leslie is trying to define family in a way that makes sense to him. But this bill does not reflect the diversity of family in this state. My California represents the full range of the people." It is uncertain just when this bill will come up for hearing again. But it will have to move quickly when and if it gets out of Assembly Judiciary.▼

Tongues

from page 15

heals of *Out In America*, and a month before the planned presentation of *Andre's Mother*, and *Longtime Companion*.

Tongues Untied is not a typical documentary, although it does incisively delve into the lives of gay black men and gives the black gay experience an eloquent voice too often unheard. The film mixes elements of documentary, music video, poetry reading and autobiographical monologue into an artful, entertaining and powerful montage.

Tongues Untied has gathered numerous awards including First Place at the San Francisco International Film Festival and Best Documentary at the Berlin International Film Festival. Because of the film's use unapologetically of nudity, explicit language and cultural candor (yet so adroitly as to be offensive only to the Puritan mind), many stations across the country refused to air it. Sacramento's channel 6 received hundreds of angry calls of protest after the airing.

Asked for the station's response, program director Susan Prince stated, "If I did not believe homophobia existed out there before this, I know it does now. It is important to air shows that shed light. We remain committed to airing this type of programming."

(Editor's note: Mom Guess What! encourages its readers to support KVIE's programming by joining the station's membership. Keep our voice on the air! Oh, and tell them MGW sent you.)

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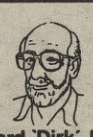

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AUGUST

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"Being Gay Today," Channel 18, 9pm.

"Fit or Fat for the 90s," Covert Bailey, exercise and diet expert, 7:30pm, Sacramento Community Center Theater. This is a benefit for KVIE Channel 6; 923-BASS.

Friday 2

California Lottery Bicycle Class, Old Sacramento, 4pm celebrity women's race; 6:30pm amateur and professional men's race. 481-4193.

Saturday 3

"The Rose Tattoo," River City MCC Ballroom, 2741 34th St., 8pm, $7, info 454-4762, 455-6808. Proceeds benefit Hope House & River City AIDS Center.

41st Semi-Annual Glass, China, Pottery Show & Sale, Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St.; 10am-5pm, $3.

"Vaudeville Daze," Sacramento Valley Chorus, Sweet Adelines International, 8pm, Sac. Comm. Center Theater, 13th & L, $15, 923-BASS or 442-7827.

"Born to Shop;" retailing seminar, 8am-12:30pm, Sacramento Women's Center and Profitability Services, 441-4207, 489-8836.

Women's Cultural Productions of Chico Women's Potluck, 6pm, bring your own beverage, place setting and dish to feed 8; 894-2877.

Joe Jackson, Jill Sobule, 8pm, Greek Theatre, $21.50; 923-BASS.

Crystal Fair, Holiday Inn, Madison & I-80, 10am-6pm, $4. (Also Sunday, Aug. 4.)

Sunday 4

Sacramento Children's Museum, 1322 O St., Two for One Admission Day, $2 for children & adults; 447-8017.

41st Semi-Annual Glass, China, Pottery Show & Sale, Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St.; 10am-5pm, $3.

Prosperity Class, Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, 7pm; 456-5685.

"Art and Soul: Festival of Black Folklore," Radisson Hotel, $15, 391-6917.

San Francisco comedy Showcase, Host: Ed Crasnick, 9pm, Punch Line Comedy Club, $5; 923-BASS.

Gender Dysphoria Picnic, all welcome. J.A.G., Box 1895, Sac. 95866.

Gay Softball League: Wreck Room vs. Faces, noon; Townhouse vs. Mercantile, 2pm; 21st & C sts.

Monday 5

Affirmation, United Methodists for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, 7pm, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Social Hall, 2391 St. Mark's Way; 489-2340.

Healthy Living Series: "Understaindg AIDS/HIV: Fears, Facts and Feelings," Joe Chase, 7-9pm, SAF, 1900 K St., 2nd Floor, 448-2437.

S.F. International Stand-Up Cmedy Competition Round 1, Host: Warren Spottswood, 9pm, Punch Line Comedy Club, $5; 923-BASS.

Affirmation, United Methodists for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, 7pm, St. Mark's United Methodist Church Social Hall, 2391 St. Mark's Way; 489-2340.

Tuesday 6

SummerMusic '91, UC Davis Presents and UC Davis Dept. of Music, 7:30pm, UCD Quad.

"Being Gay Today," Channel 18, 10pm.

Women's Group for Survivors of Sexual Abuse, 6:30-8:30pm, Kelly & Associates, 411 Oak St., Roseville; 783-0579 to register; $25/session. Facilitator: Melinda Facelli, M.A. MFCC IMF15850 Intern to Andrea Kelly, MFC MG16944.

Heart to Heart Rap Group: "Being Positive About Being Negative," SAF, 1900 K St., #200; 6:30pm, 448-2437.

New Beginnings Land Trust, 1211 H St., #8, 6pm; 441-0749.

Wednesday 7

Sacramento Women's Network monthly luncheon, Beverly Garland Hotel, 1780 Tribute Rd., new member and guest orientation 11:30am, lunch and networking 12 noon; reservations 448-8203.

How to Have a Positive Relationship, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, 7pm, $25; 456-5685.

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, Sim Park, Logan St., north of Elder Creek Rd., 7:30pm.

Golden Gate Business Association: Make Contact at the Metro Bar & Restaurant, 3600 16th St., 5:30pm. No charge, optional dinner follows; reservations 415-703-9750.

Thursday 8

"Being Gay Today," Channel 18, 10pm.

Camping Women Invitation, members only; 689-9328. (Thru Aug. 11).

Women's Group for Survivors of Sexual Abuse, 6:30-8:30pm, Kelly & Associates, 411 Oak St., Roseville; 783-0579 to register; $25/session. Facilitator: Melinda Facelli, M.A. MFCC IMF15850 Intern to Andrea Kelly, MFC MG16944.

Friday 9

Women's Cultural Productions of Chico camping thru Aug. 11, for women & children under 18; Cherry Hill (near Butte Meadows). Walk in site, share overnight campsite for approx. $6/night. Potluck Sat. 345-4762.

"La Traviata," San Francisco Opera, 3:30pm, 415-864-3330. (Thru Sunday, Aug. 11.)

Saturday 10

"The Rose Tattoo," River City MCC Ballroom, 2741 34th St., 8pm, $7, info 454-4762, 455-6808. Proceeds benefit Hope House & River City AIDS Center.

Midtown Fair, Marshal Park, 28th & J sts., 10am-5pm; register by July 19; 442-2525.

Networking Seminar: "Pulling Everyone's Strings," business owners discover creative ways to find more business. 8am-12:30pm, Sacramento Women's Center and Profitability Services, 441-4207, 489-8836.

Sunday 11

Sacramento Children's Museum, 1322 O St., Two for One Admission Day, $2 for children & adults; 447-8017.

Dignity, 3pm, St. Francis Chapel, 4pm Social; 552-1925.

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, Meadowview Park, 24th St., south off Meadowview Rd., 7:30pm.

Prosperity Class, Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, 7pm; 456-5685.

"Bathing Beauties," a work in oil. Just Looking: Viewing the Photograph Exhibit, Himovitz Gallery, 1020 10th St., Sac., Aug. 7-24.

San Francisco Comedy Showcase, 9pm, Punch Line Comedy Club, $5; 923-BASS.

Gay Softball League: Mercantile vs. Townhouse, noon; Wreck Room vs. Faces, 2pm; 21st & C sts.

Monday 12

Sacramento Symphony free concert, UC Davis West Quad, UC Davis, 7:30pm.

In and Out of Body Experience, lecture, Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, 7pm, $15 reserved seats; 456-5685.

Women's Rap: "Potluck-Oriental Food Fest" (bring a dish to share), Lambda Center, 7pm; 442-0185.

Tuesday 13

"Being Gay Today," Channel 18, 10pm.

Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, thru August 18; W.W.T.M.C., 616-757-4766.

Tobias Maxwell (l) and Brian Douglas (r) co-star in the Lambda Player's production of *Jerkers*. Weekends through August. 442-7752 for reservations.

Common Sense Dog Training: Beginning, 6:30pm, Puppies, 6:30pm, Advanced Puppies, 7:30pm, Intermediate, 7:30pm; Curtis Park, Sutterville & W. Curtis, Sac; 485-2201 reservations req.

Wednesday 14

An Evening of "Trance Channelling," Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, Advanced ticket $25, at-the-door $45, 7pm; 456-5685, 489-7503.

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, Land Park, 1702 Sutterville Rd., 7:30pm.

Thursday 15

"Being Gay Today," Channel 18, 10pm.

DEUCE at Michigan Womyn's Music Festival.

Friday 16

Barbary Coast Cloggers, State Fair, 4:30pm.

Barbara Coast Cloggers Benefit, MCC Church.

Capital City Squares Hoedown, $5 donation, men and women welcome, no partner needed, Coloma Comm. Center, 46th & T, 7:30-10pm; 447-2271, 723-7727.

California State Fair Opening Day, 10am-10pm daily, Cal Expo, thru Sept. 2.

Lioness Books presents Aaron Fricke, reading "Sudden Strangers," The Story of a Gay Son and His Father; 7pm, 2224 J St., 442-4657.

SACWN presents "Lesbian Love Connection," Dating Game & Newlywed Game, 6:30-10pm, Clarion Hotel, 16th & H sts.; 486-8985.

MENS Session, "Meeting Erotic Needs Safely," SAF, 1900 K St., #200, 7-9pm; 448-2437.

Saturday 17

"The Rose Tattoo," River City MCC Ballroom, 2741 34th St., 8pm, $7, info 454-4762, 455-6808. Proceeds benefit Hope House & River City AIDS Center.

Barbary Coast Cloggers, State Fair, 4:30pm.

CGNIE Balloting for new Grand Duke & Duchess (XII), Lambda Comm. Center, 1931 L St., 11am, 8pm, Proof of age (18 or older) and residence in Calif. required.

City of Sacramento Auction of items recovered by the City, Sacramento Community/Convention Center, 13th & J sts., 8am viewing, 10am sale. Items are sold "as is, where is." 422-8212.

Tax Seminar: "Pay Less Taxes," 8am-12:30pm, Sacramento Women's Center and Profitability Services, 441-4207, 489-8836.

Sunday 18

Sacramento Children's Museum, 1322 O St., Two for One Admission Day, $2 for children & adults; 447-8017.

Barbary Coast Cloggers Benefit for PAARC's AIDS Emergency Fund, Faces, 9pm.

Barbary Coast Cloggers, State Fair, 4:30pm.

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, Oki Park, Wissemann Dr., north off Folsom Blvd., 7:30pm.

Prosperity Class, Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, 7pm; 456-5685.

erola Opera Program Grand Finals Concert, conducted by Patrick Summers, San Francisco Opera; 415-864-3330.

Gay Softball League: Wreck Room vs. Merantile, noon; Townhouse vs. Faces, 2pm; 21st & C sts.

Monday 19

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, Gibson Ranch, Elverta Rd., west off Watt Ave., 7:30pm.

Legislature reconvenes.

Women's Rap: "Lesbian Reading Circle" (bring your favorite Lesbian book), Lambda Center, 7pm; 442-0185.

Tuesday 20

"Being Gay Today," Channel 18, 10pm.

SLCC meeting, 7pm, Lambda Center downstairs; info: 448-3130.

P-FLAG meeting: Speaker: Linda Birner, Publisher, MGW Newspaper; St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Mark's Way, 7:30pm; 665-1050.

Wednesday 21

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, Gibbons Park, Cypress Ave., west off Walnut Rd., 7:30pm.

Thursday 22

In Town Show, CGNIE, Faces, 2000 K St., free; 7pm.

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, Nielson Park, Center Parkway, north off Mack Rd., 7:30pm.

Friday 23

Out of Town Show, CGNIE, The Townhouse, 1517 21st St., 9pm, free.

Sacramento Symphony free park concert, McKinley Park, McKinley Blvd. and Alhambra Blvd., 7:30pm.

Gallery and Theatre listings can be found on page 12.